

SIR HAROLD WILSON AND THE PRESS

Attack on Fleet Street's 'smears and trivia'

Sir Harold Wilson, the former Prime Minister, yesterday released the rest of evidence to the Royal Commission on the Press. In it he said:

On Friday, September 24, 1974, speaking at Portsmouth two days after I had announced that a general election was to be held on October 10, I felt it necessary to make the following statement about the conduct of the press during the period up to polling day:

"The issues in this election are far too important for the election to generate into personal attacks by party leaders one on another, or by other party spokesmen: far too important for mutual changes of confrontation. The issues of the election are too important to degenerate into or to be decided on personalities."

"This applies all the more to the type of smear campaign which we have seen, in which the country would not have been insulted with if an election had not been in the offing. These do not emanate from any of the parties. Nor are any party leader, tend any respect to them."

"But we have such squalid campaigning as the Zurich bank account smear at Mr Edward Short. It was a lie, carefully cooked, elaborated; it was proved a lie, but somehow the exposure of the dishonesty of such stories never seems to catch up with the original story."

"Fleet Street is a leaky place, and my colleagues and I throughout the campaign have received many warnings from friends there about the assiduous and dedicated work going on to prepare stories, held back, ready for issue as the election nears in climax. Some of the leading journalists have been combing obscure parts of the country with a mandate to find anything, true or fabricated, to use against the Labour Party. Not only plain-jane journalists, who have poured out gory like water and it has been good for the provincial tourist trade. Well, we are ready for them, and I welcome the fact that they do the same. But the Conservative Party for instance."

That statement was predictably condemned by most of Fleet Street, I use the geographical term in the sense that it is commonly understood, not in celebrating the work of the national press wherever printed, the attacks concentrating on the final paragraph, the other paragraphs, I suppose, being relatively uncontroversial.

The Press Council publicly announced they would use me to advise to the council the evidence on which those allegations were based for investigation by them. I declined the request. Indeed, I had declined it on the day before the announcement, and said that I intended to put my evidence before the Royal Commission on the Press.

I did not then and I do not now regard the Press Council as the appropriate body to consider this or any other issue with a political content. I was concerned with the question of editorial standards generally, the quality, the objectivity and the ethics of the news and the use and the freedom of the press as I see it, the freedom of the readers to enjoy a choice of opinions and policies in their newspapers, unhampered by question of motive.

The terms of reference of the royal commission, in my view, make it more appropriate to consider the issues I have raised. In its editorial opinions, and often, by its treatment and presentation of the news, the Press Council is, largely, hostile to the Labour Party. That is an historical and current fact.

The degree of the hostility may vary from time to time, depending upon whether a Labour Government is in office or not; upon whether it is a friend of certain papers who favour the election or retention of the Labour Government may be calculated to show, on occasions, that the number of copies printed, aggregated perhaps to a million, in favour of Labour, but few regular readers of the press, and certainly, few supporters of the Labour Party, would seriously disagree with the existence of that hostility.

The question is, how far it is right to go in pursuing that hostility? Are no holds barred, or is a different standard of treatment of politicians and other public figures to be dependent upon the approval of others in their views or actions by newspaper proprietors and editors?

The conduct of sections of the national press during 1974, particularly the Express and the Daily Mail, so far as the treatment of Labour Party personalities was concerned, seemed to me to violate the minimum standards that Fleet Street should observe and, indeed, much of Fleet Street did observe.

It is my contention that by the deliberate and painstaking exploitation of the smear technique the sought to impugn the motives of politicians and other public figures to be dependent upon the approval of others in their views or actions by newspaper proprietors and editors?

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The arrival very early in the morning and staged photographs for which they asked dustmen to pose as drinking the dregs from tea cups, bottles and pictures and then were forced over the centre pages of the Daily Mail, an example more of their malice than their news sense, though in 1974 they rarely reached the standards they had set a year earlier.

A Labour Prime Minister may be considered a game for the sake of smearing, I do not recall it happening with a Conservative Government. But, of course, this remorseless search for the unsavoury and the unfavourable, or even the opportunity to present the innocuous in a disasteful light, is a tool of political life for Labour.

I recall the strenuous efforts, and considerable expense, undertaken by two Fleet Street newspapers to discover the sum I was paid, when Leader of the Opposition, for an Annual Lecture tour, arranged tours by the Queen and past leaders of the Conserva-



Lady Falkender (formerly Mrs Marcia Williams): She received libel damages but, Sir Harold says, "the damage to her reputation was instantaneous".

For my part, I knew that any allegation of impropriety or dishonesty concerning myself or my closest colleagues could be easily refuted. But I was concerned that if such allegations occurred they might not be easily refuted.

After all, it is not uncommon for a year or more to elapse between the publication of a libel and subsequent settlement. The eve of poll session, the last-minute scare, the alert of electoral and newspaper notices from 1974 and Zinovitz onwards.

The weight of the warnings I received from friendly journalists, the conduct of Fleet Street in the months between the two elections, the behaviour of Mr Haines told him that Mrs Williams was not available.

Mr Haines' solicitor and told him that the woman was planning to sue him and his son-in-law, Mr Wilson, and spoke to Mr Haines again and was told that Mrs Williams had passed it to the Daily Mail and they intended to print it.

Lord Goodman was subsequently told, and informed the police, that the woman had been offered to the *Newspaper of the World*.

On the Thursday before polling day, the rumour of a last-minute sensation was widespread.

The *Daily Mail* was the only newspaper to acknowledge that it was something for its reputation in Fleet Street. The *Daily Express*, on October 3, telephoned Lord Brayley's solicitor and told him that the *Daily Mail* was planning to sue him and his son-in-law.

Mr Haines' son-in-law, Mr Wilson, was planning to sue him and his son-in-law.

A senior *Evening Standard* reporter told Mr Haines on October 4 that the *Mail* was running a "stun" on the following Monday and advised him to sue him and his son-in-law.

Another journalist told Mr Haines of inquiries made by two management sources of the *Daily Mail* into the private life of a Cabinet minister, naming the pre-milieus, which were answered by Mr Haines, who told him Mrs Williams was not available.

Mr Haines' son-in-law, Mr Wilson, was not available (she had, in fact, taken her first evening off since the campaign). Mr Park said that in that case there was no point in suing him and his son-in-law.

On Tuesday evening, Mr Haines was visited in a car on the other side of Smith Square, accompanied by two other men, one of them a photographer.

That the *Daily Mail* intended to use the story about Mr Wilson before polling day is beyond doubt, as it came from inquiries they were pursuing at Transport House, in the Wigton area about which Mr Wilson's office was informed at the time by Mr Paul Carmody, the Labour regional agent in the North-west, and the director of the Wigton office, Mr Lomax, who had written to the proprietor of the *Daily Mail*.

Subsequently, the *Daily Mail* printed the first story about Mrs Williams, her brother, Tony Field and Miss Peggy Field and the land agent who was to be sued.

That was why it was necessary to print the story in the way that I did at Portsmouth. What effect that warning had will never be known or at least not for a very long time. If it was a Fleet Street precept that there is no smoke without fire, then it would be difficult to ignore the possibility that another such scare would be launched and momentarily divert the public's attention from the grave issue of reportorial ethics.

There was also the explosion during two elections, though virtually silent, of a threatened legal action by the widow of a former principal private secretary of mine.

Some of the inquiries pursued, were merely classic examples of over-publicism at the worst.

One of the most notorious examples of constant press inquiries and investigation basic to all of which was the suggestion, however vague, however hidden, of corruption at worst, dubious standards at best, usually accompanied by a comment that any such investigation existed.

These baseless inquiries ranged, so far as Labour frontbenchers were concerned, over the affairs of Mr Pouson, the Zurich bank affair, T. Dan Smith, the commercial editor of the *Evening Standard* and Zinovitz onwards.

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HOME NEWS

Tory Scottish people must come back to earth, Tory conference is told

Ronald Faux.

The economic case for an independent Scotland was built on two dangerous myths, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, the shadow Chancellor, told Scottish Conservatives at their conference in Perth yesterday.

He said the first myth was that all Scotland's troubles were the fault of the English and the second that North Sea oil would miraculously restore a Scottish economy.

It was high time the people of Scotland came back to earth, Geoffrey declared. The separate and self-governing Scotland which lay at the end of the nationalist road would be bad for the country, for Europe and for the world.

There was a foolish delusion that almost all of Scotland's troubles were the fault of the English and that as the last Anglo-Saxon was driven across Hadrian's Wall, the economic n would suddenly break through. He quoted from a new book by a group of Scottish economists which said that the performance of the Scottish economy might be partly due to external factors but it was not a plague visited on Scotland by a malignant Whitehall. Most probably it was self-induced.

The second myth is that the health of the Scottish economy will be miraculously restored by North Sea oil, and all the more easily if Scotland is independent. There can be very little confidence in that. If the right policies are not adopted, then, quote again from the same Scottish source, nothing fundamental would have changed. Scotland would remain an inefficient manufacturing economy.

Most important, Sir Geoffrey went on, Scotland's problems could be even harder to solve than the aftermath of a bitter and acutely contested divorce from the rest of the kingdom. There

Labour may ease rule on National Front

By Michael Hornsby.

The Labour Party may be forced to reconsider its advice to election candidates not to appear on public platforms with opponents standing for the National Front. Mr Ronald Underhill, the party's national agent, disclosed yesterday.

How could Scottish industry cope with a possible massive contraction of its domestic market? He also asked what the outlook would be for Scottish industry which was dependent on orders from the United Kingdom public sector.

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Hint that Conservatives would try for voluntary deal with unions

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

The Conservatives would do nothing to undermine any incomes policy which the Labour Government could reach with the unions. But "if there is a tight control of the money supply and the beginning of a wages explosion, then this must be reflected in much higher unemployment a little later on".

Mr Prior suggested a moratorium on worker-directors for three to four years, after which the practices of the "best companies" should be consolidated into intervention.

Mr Prior, speaking in Bournemouth, advocated a statutory incomes policy will obviously be welcomed by the unions, but it comes as no surprise to the social contract over pay increases should be carried out in company premises and in company time.

ing a voluntary incomes policy, the unions would seek in return a close involvement in the handling of the economy, and there is some doubt whether the Conservatives would go that far.

Mr Prior's suggestion for giving state funds to allow secret postal balloting in union elections is designed to benefit "moderate" candidates, who usually do better in postal voting than in elections at union branch meetings, where low attendance is generally believed to favour left-wing candidates.

The General and Municipal Workers' Union, third biggest of the unions, last night welcomed Mr Prior's "conversion" to the social contract, but added that a pay deal would be impossible unless the unions had an involvement in the management of the economy.

As for the possibility of reach,



Jubilee shields: A selection from more than eighty shields showing the arms of City livery companies which are to be displayed along Cheapside for the Queen's silver jubilee. They were shown outside Guildhall yesterday by Mr Ian Smith, of the City of London engineer's department.

New squad clears London of big pornography pedlars

By Clive Barrell

For the second time in five months former members of Scotland Yard's obscene publications squad, known as the "porn" squad, have been convicted by a jury at the Central Criminal Court for corruption on a scale that most fiction writers would dismiss as too far-fetched.

Six men were sentenced for corruption yesterday; just before Christmas last year five others were sent to prison for similar housing and schooling.

"Of course there is disillusionment. There is bound to be when there is unemployment and the continuing position of rising prices. You add to that cases of corruption in all parties, and when you have an organization like the National Front, which is able to appeal to the most primitive instincts in people, you have repercussions."

Mr Walker's book traces the right in Britain from Sir Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists to the present National Front. By Martin Walker (Futura, £1).

John Poulsen freed

Mr John Poulsen, aged 67, the former architect, was released from Lincoln prison on parole yesterday after serving just over three years of a seven-year sentence for corruption.

Whether it could achieve anything that was not already being done to create new jobs in high unemployment areas and wondered to whom it would be responsible.

Mr Williams was, however, asked to think again by Mr Giles Radice, Labour MP for Chelmsford. If proliferation of regional agencies was the only argument against, then she had begun already in Scotland and Wales, he said.

Mr Williams brought some comfort by supporting the continuation of regional policies in spite of substantial pressures from both parties to end the system of giving special aid to areas with traditionally high unemployment.

Why woman drivers have accidents

By Our Motoring Correspondent

Women drivers are not necessarily worse than men but they behave differently on the road and tend to have more accidents because of inexperience or unfamiliarity with the vehicle, according to a Government report published yesterday.

It found that women were more easily distracted, failed to look before taking action and when they did look, often did not see hazards. They were less experienced in the art of driving and more likely to be careless.

The report, by the Transport and Road Research Laboratory, is based on a study of 2,654 drivers, including 500 women, who were involved in more than 2,000 accidents over a four-year period in south-east Berkshire.

Women were more likely to be involved in an accident as a result of "perceptual errors". In errors relating to skill, women featured proportionately nearly twice as often as men. But men and women had an almost equal chance of being in an accident as a result of an error in their manner of driving.

Male errors often resulted from travelling too fast or improper overtaking, while women tended not to take sufficient care before manoeuvring. The right turn, especially entering a major road from a minor one, presented difficulties for the less experienced woman driver.

The newly constituted squad purged the West End of London of the pedlars. Trade in pornography has dwindled to less than a fifth of what it was in the late 1960s and early 1970s and it continues to decline. Magazines, which at one time would cost £5 a copy, are worth little more than £1 now.

A senior Scotland Yard officer said: "There just is not the money in it anymore; certainly not enough even to contemplate trying to bribe a police officer."

It was just five years ago that Det Chief Supt Moody stood in No 2 court at the Central Criminal Court and was congratulated by Mr Justice Shaw (now Lord Justice Shaw) for his part in investigating a case of two corrupt detectives.

By 1972, after eight years of uninterrupted and seemingly uncontrollable corruption, Sir Robert Mark, then the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, decided that it was time to reorganize the force.

The investigation of pornography became the responsibility of a new squad, formed of CID men and uniform officers.

Slowly the CID men were pleased out; now it is exclus-

ely manned by uniform officers under the control of Commander Kenneth Hannam, assisted by Chief Inspector John Hoddinott. It has achieved a remarkable victory in the fight against the sale of pornography in London.

The operators who made several thousand pounds a week from pornography, described by one defence counsel as the "most evil men who lived among the sewerage of society", were headed out of business. Some were prosecuted and imprisoned.

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Leyland pays off £3,000-a-year men with no job

Reform of EEC agricultural policy urged

British Leyland issued dismiss notices yesterday to 20 workers who had been receiving £3,000 a week for doing nothing since the Budget petrol tax reduction in the VAT threshold, and consumer representation on the Post Office board.

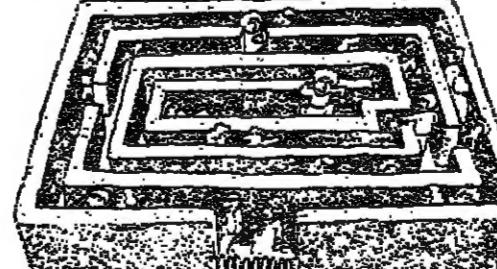
The agreement must be judged by its ability to influence future policy. Everything would now depend on the Government's willingness to agree a future programme of legislation for the British people as a whole.

Mr Ian Mikardo, the guru of the Tribune group in the Parliamentary Labour Party, said at the East Anglia University Labour Club in Norwich that the Prime Minister and the Chancellor are not just

Whigs, the management closed the plant's paint shop, the workers concerned were told they would have to move to other jobs, but it was agreed that cases of men unwilling or unable to change jobs would be referred to the Transport and General Workers' Union at national level. A total of 340 men ultimately accepted alternative work, leaving the 20 unplanned.

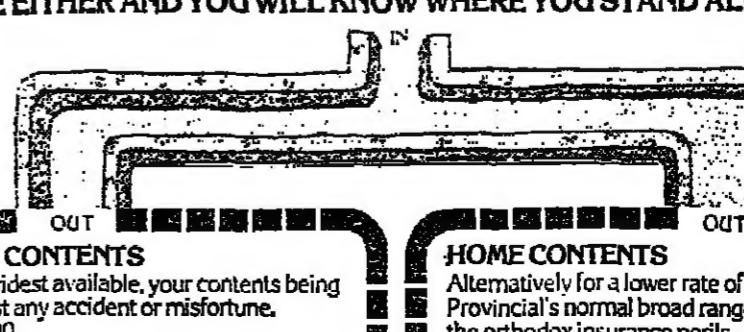
Jobs threatened, page 17

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This is a cordial invitation to visit not just another art fair but rather an exciting exhibition of modern art sponsored by a non-profit public body and presented by the world's finest art dealers, periodicals and print publishers, selected and invited by a board of art critics. Walking leisurely through Arte Fiera you will have the opportunity to visit 264 exhibitors, coming from 82 cities and 21 countries. Buy-to-day the art of tomorrow (and of yesterday, and of today) in Bologna, a city of fascinating beauty where gastronomic tradition is second only to its artistic splendour; and don't forget that Bologna is also the starting point for unforgettable trips (Florence, Ferrara, Parma and Ravenna are only an hour drive away).

Jury reject coroner's hint of murder verdict

An inquest jury at Thirsk, North Yorkshire, yesterday rejected the conclusion of a coroner that Mrs Kathleen Carter, aged 26, had murdered her young son before taking her own life. Instead, they decided that Simon Carter, aged four, died by accident, after hearing how his mother might have had second thoughts and attempted to save him.

The police broke in to their cottage found the body of Mrs Kathleen Carter, aged 26, with the boy on her knee. She had surrounded him with his books to distract him as they died.

Nearby was an envelope and a piece of notepaper on which was written: "Daddy come and see me on Saturday". That was the day the police made their discovery at Chapel Cottage, Sand Hutton, near Thirsk. It was added. Mrs Carter and her son were on the settee in their nightclothes and both had died from a overdose of drugs.

Mr Peter Hatch, the coroner, said they must be forced to the conclusion that Mrs Carter was responsible for her child's death by administering tablets to him. Although it was natural to side away from a murderer, he said a verdict of accidental death would be stretching the facts beyond all reason and even a manslaughter verdict would be contrary to the facts.

After the inquest Mrs Carter's husband, Neil, aged 33, a snack bar proprietor, of Kearsby, near Wetherby, West Yorkshire, who was separated from his wife, said: "I am convinced the jury's verdict on my son was the right one. Kathleen thought the world of Simon and it just is not possible that she could have intended him harm."

WEST EUROPE

Italian move to stop interference with justice

From Patricia Clough

Rome, May 13.—The Italian Cabinet today approved a package of measures to combat the latest forms of political and common crime; attacks and threats against justice officials, interference with the process of law and prison escapes.

The most serious case was the enforced suspension of the trial of alleged left-wing terrorists when juries, terrified by death threats, refused to serve.

The measures include stiff punishment for interference with courts, constitutional organs and regional assemblies, threats to people involved in trials and for attacks on members of Parliament, the judiciary, the police and prison officials.

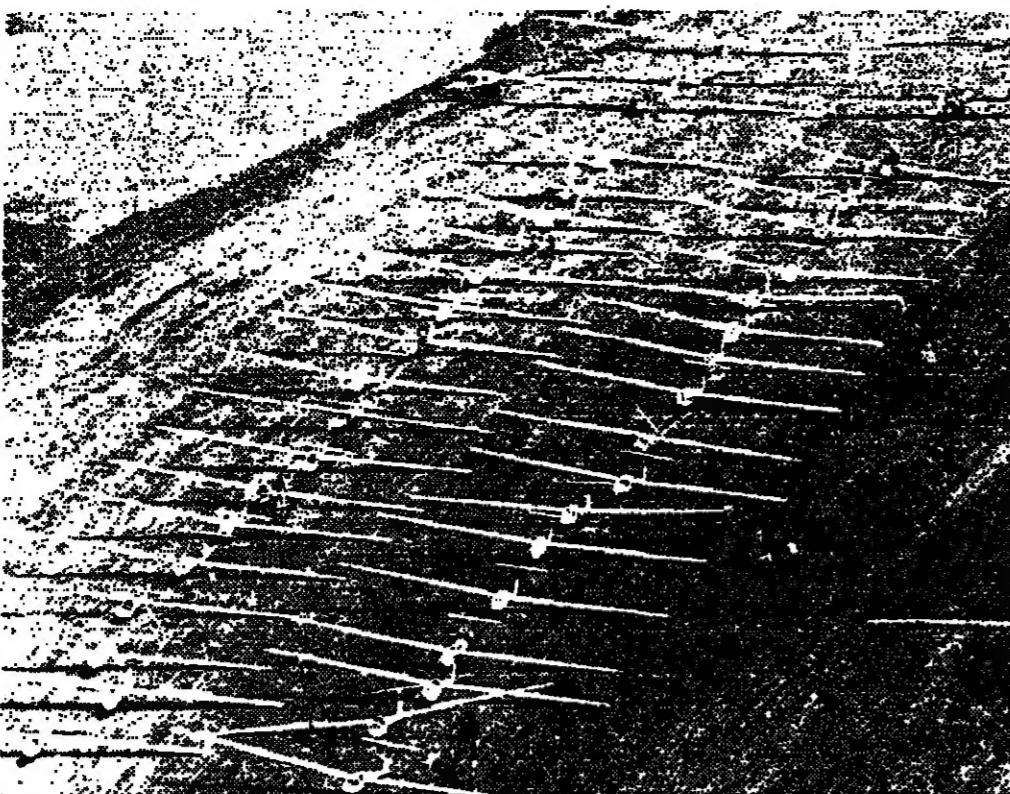
Left-wing groups and Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Interior Minister, today blamed each other for yesterday's grave incidents between police and youths in Rome in which a 19-year-old woman was shot dead and many people were injured.

As they exchanged accusations, students were preparing to defuse the Government's five-week ban on demonstrations with a four-day strike through working-class districts of Rome. They called on supporters to defend themselves if police tried to disperse them.

Seven people were injured today during a demonstration by schoolchildren who attacked Christian Democratic and Neo-Fascist party branches with petrol bombs in a Rome suburb. Fifteen police cars were damaged last night when a bomb blew up in a police garage. Police arrested a group of people belonging to a student movement who they said were found in possession of explosives.

Tension was running high here after five hours of street fighting last night. The trouble started after a huge police force prevented a pop festival organized by the non-violent, civil rights-oriented Radical Party.

The incidents started with what eyewitnesses described as unprovoked tear gas charges by police against young people.



Gliders grounded by bad weather in the first day of the Swiss Sailplane Championship yesterday.

Turin court told of chemical plant where workers died of cancer

Turin, May 13.—Five officials of dye factory are being tried in Turin on charges of multiple manslaughter and causing serious physical harm after allegations that in the last 20 years 132 of the factory workers have died from cancer of the bladder.

In 32 of the cases the cause of death was officially attributed to toxic chemicals handled at the aniline dye factory.

The factory was criticized in 1953 for using two dangerous compounds, benzene and benzidine, without taking adequate precautions. These have been banned since 1952 in several countries, but not in Seveso, where a cloud of dioxin escaped from a factory last summer and contaminated the homes of hundreds of people.

The five defendants at the trial, which opened last month, are the factory's three owners, the general manager and the factory doctor. A sixth defendant, the technical director, died before the trial opened.

The main witnesses are from

13 families of dead or sick workers from the factory, the Industrie Piemontesi Coloranti All'anilina (IPCA). Nine more families withdrew from the case in return for compensation from the company.

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A union spokesman said that workers suffering from bladder pain to "drink less and the pain will pass away," Signor Garial said, and a widow told the court that her husband's wooden shoes were eaten away by chemicals at the factory in a few days.

It was claimed that workers often failed to complain because the factory assured steady wages. Most employees were former peasants interested mainly in tending their gardens after work.

A union spokesman said that workers with dangerous jobs were only required to work 12 hours a day, but worked 12 to make more money.

For the first time in Italy, trade unions have been allowed to take civil action against a company alongside the families.

—Agence France-Presse and Reuter.

EEC agreement with sugar producers

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, May 13

The EEC and African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries agreed in principle here today on a guaranteed price for the 1,250,000 tonnes of sugar of the Community is pledged to import from ACP producers during the 1977-78 crop year. This runs from May 1 until June 30 of next year.

The price has been set at 272.5 units of account a tonne, which ACP sources estimate to be equivalent to £215 a tonne. This represents an increase of only about 2 per cent over last year's price.

However, the ACP producers have been given an assurance by Tate and Lyle, the British refiners who buy virtually all their sugar, that they can expect in practice to receive a market price of "not less than 282 units of account" (£220) a tonne.

Although this still falls short of what the ACP negotiators had been demanding, and Tate and Lyle's commitment is not legally binding, the sugar pro-

ducers reluctantly accepted that they had got a reasonable deal, given the lower level of world prices.

Speaking after the conclusion of the negotiations, Mr George King, the Trade Minister of Guyana who led the ACP delegation, said he and his colleagues could "live with the compromise agreed, provided the assurances from the refiner are honoured." He had no reason to suppose they would not be.

Mr King said he was "very unhappy," however, that the EEC had refused to backdate the period over which the new price will apply beyond May 1. This would mean a serious erosion of earnings for those ACP producers which had already shipped their sugar.

Mr King also complained about the way the EEC interprets the relevant provisions of the Lomé Convention which stipulate that the ACP countries should receive a price "within the range" of prices paid to the Community's own sugar pro-

ducers. The jargon is the language of the policy proposed by Mitterrand.

"Your problem is that you want to govern an imaginary France in an imaginary world," he said. If the left came to power he feared Mitterrand would be a hostage of the Communists.

M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader, said today that after last night's performance his conviction that the Government majority would win the coming election had been strengthened.

Mitterrand rejection of Marchais costing

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, May 13

François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, refuses to accept the Communists' estimates of the cost of carrying out the common programme of the left, published earlier this week. He is to see M Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, on Tuesday to discuss the updating of the common programme of 1972.

This was just about the only real revelation that emerged from last night's television debate between M Barre, the Prime Minister, and M Mitterrand which is reported to have been watched by some 28 million people.

The two-hour discussion was devoted almost exclusively to economic, monetary and social affairs, with only a 10-minute excursion into foreign affairs, and very little domestic politics, save by implication.

As generally expected, the Communists' publication of their astronomical estimates of the cost of implementing the common programme of the left proved a source of acute embarrassment to M Mitterrand.

M Barre skilfully exploited his advantage to the utmost. "The Communists were not nice to you," he remarked ironically.

Distractedly on the defensive on this point, M Mitterrand said that what the Communists had costed was a Communist programme, not the common programme of the left. There was no question of the Socialists' accepting the application of a programme which exceeded

Warm welcome in Bonn for Mr Jenkins

From Our Own Correspondent

Bonn, May 13

Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the European Commission, found much sympathy in Bonn today for his view that the Community should be better represented at future Western economic summit meetings.

During a press conference at the end of his first official visit to Bonn as President, Mr Jenkins described his exclusion from the first and inclusion in the second half of last weekend's Downing Street conference as artificial and illogical. He hoped for better things next time.

But he thought that he had been able to make a useful contribution on behalf of the Community and its five smaller members not present at the summit.

His discussions here centred on the Downing Street summit, the themes dealt with there and how these should be pursued.

The West Germans made a fuss of him, providing him with a motor cycle escort and a warm found of applause when he went to the Bundestag to hear part of a debate on the economic conference.

In fact, the subject was not discussed when Mr Trudeau and the President met for talks after a luncheon.

Briton jailed for drug smuggling

Marselles, May 13.—Timothy Edwards, aged 29, a writer from Plymouth, was sentenced to six years imprisonment and a fine of £16,000 francs (about £18,000) for drug smuggling.

He was arrested on October 31, 1975 when customs officers discovered 173lb of cannabis in his car on arrival from Morocco. Fines in such cases are largely symbolic and usually are settled by confiscation of the vehicle and payments consistent with the income of the person involved.—AP.

Fishing pact with US is criticized

From Bernard Withers

Strasbourg, May 13

An agreement which allows EU fishermen access to United States coastal waters was criticized here today in the European Parliament. Members decided that the arrangements should not be used as a model for agreements with other states.

The agreement allows fishermen to go into the United States 200-mile limit under a permit system, but the members felt that the fee for the permits, at 5 per cent value of the catch in American terms, is excessive.

Mr Mark Hughes, Labour MP for Durham, said on behalf of the Parliament's agricultural committee, that the Communists had voted in favour of the United States terms, one of having no fishing within the 200-mile limit.

MPs agreed that they were deeply concerned at the way in which the United States Congress sought to impose a pre-established agreement on the Community without considering the Community's special interest.

Parliamentary report, page 21

Traditionalist prelate in Vatican talks

Rome, May 13.—Mgr Lefebvre, the rebel traditionalist prelate, left Rome today after talks with two Vatican theologians. Vatican sources reported.—Reuter.

A gruesome competition for German readers

From Dan van der Vat

Bonn, May 13

Readers of today's issue of West Germany's most popular newspaper, *Bild*, of Hamburg, have the chance to win a "golden mouth" free of all household bills, on one uniquely gruesome competition.

All the reader has to do to win is to work out, in a creakily simple giveaway "competition", the name of a variety of cancer. He then writes the magic word on a postcard and sends it to Hamburg.

The postage costs the equivalent of 10p, but otherwise entry is free. Afterwards, he needs merely to win the draw from the sacks of correct entries.

Today's type of cancer is in German. It occurs in the name of the newspaper itself, which has brought along a graphic example last night of how relations between the United States, the Soviet Union and China can affect the world at large. He claimed that during the war between India and Pakistan, Mrs Gandhi, once her troops had gained the upper hand in East Pakistan, decided to turn her armies against West Pakistan.

In case this is still too hard for the more than five million people who buy the newspaper every day, the entire word is to be found in an accompanying account of the case of a 33-year-old secretary in Bremen.

The article coyly emphasizes that her name has been changed, presumably to save her embarrassment. It also points out that the solution-word is to be found in full in the case-history.

This brief account describes how the sufferer awoke night after night bathed in perspiration and with unbearable itchy skin. The doctor at first prescribed vitamin pills and rest, but to no avail.

At last, she noticed that certain glands were swollen. In hospital, the diagnosis was Hodgkin's disease, or cancer of the lymph glands, or, to give it its German name, Lymphdrüsenerkrankung. This must be the solution.

Today's is the eleventh consecutive issue of the newspaper in which such a competition has appeared. Each round produces one winner, and so far *Bild*, if my detailed detective work is right, has worked its way through cancer of the lung, womb, stomach, skin, bones, prostate gland, larynx, breast, brain and intestines, as well as the lymph glands.

Medical classifications vary, but there are between 17 and 28 further varieties of cancer for the newspaper to choose from as it works its way through its "golden mouth" of malignancies.

Although the standard of taste in this unprecedented competition is open to question, the cause it supports is not. This is presumably why Dr Mildred Schild, the West German President's wife and last name to her name to it. Frau Schild, a highly qualified radiologist, devotes much of her time to fighting cancer.

As the newspaper put it on the opening day of the series, "this campaign is meant not only to inform, prevent and assist, but also to be fun. Each day it urges its readers to send money to the fight against cancer, to help the campaign against the disease, which has opened a special post office account in Cologne to handle the flow of contributions."

Complaints of the irreproachable *Bild* will, if they are honest, admit this extraordinary stance as a masterpiece. The newspaper has been softening up its readership for years through its "golden mouth" of malignancies.

If this cancer contest does nothing else, it shows that *Bild* is always ready to extend the boundaries of the jargonistically possible.

It is this fact, together with the opening day of the series, "this campaign is meant not only to inform, prevent and assist, but also to be fun. Each day it urges its readers to send money to the fight against cancer, to help the campaign against the disease, which has opened a special post office account in Cologne to handle the flow of contributions."

As the strict secrecy is laid down by the South African Anti-Apartheid Act, Rio Tinto, the mine's operator and largest shareholder, says it would like to be more forthcoming, but there is unlikely to be any significant change so long as mining continues.

Visitors are not welcome at Rössing, particularly journalists. A visiting television reporter who tried to film the entrance found himself surrounded by police who took his film.

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Portuguese miners are stowing increasing interest in mineral prospecting in Namibia. Some are already taking out prospecting rights, but others are waiting to see how the political situation develops.

Most people involved in mining would like to see the country become independent under the Turnhalle, the multi-ethnic conference set up by South Africa in an attempt to provide an alternative to a Swapo take-over after Pretoria.

Botswana feel they could live with a Swapo government so long as it did not tend to white nationalism.

Father Festus Mahoro, Swapo's secretary for foreign affairs, who lives in a black township close to Rössing, says Swapo is not opposed in principle to continued control of the country by the white minority.

However, he is very critical of Rio Tinto, which, he claims, is operating in Namibia, in breach of United Nations resolutions, and supports apartheid by regarding its workers.

"Our uranium is of the greatest political importance," Mr Burns says. "It would be of great benefit to the Marxists if it fell into their hands."

For the mining companies the next round of talks between the five Western countries and the South African Government will be crucial in determining which way the political balance will swing.

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Gandhi overseas

Mr Sadat predicts improvement in relations with Russia

From Robert Fisk,

Air, May 13
President Sadat of Egypt suggested today that a striking improvement in relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union could be expected before reconvened Geneva peace conference.

His statement, in the kind of cautious language which he uses these days when referring to Egypt's fractured relationship with the Russians, was made at the end of a three-day visit to Cairo by President Ceausescu of Romania, a potential mediator in the long-standing Egyptian-Soviet dispute.

At a press conference held by both leaders at the end of their talks, President Sadat was asked whether he thought the success of any Geneva peace conference might be impaired by the "Egyptian" behaviour of the Soviet Union.

"Despite the coolness in our relations with the Soviet Union," he replied, "and in spite of the problems we may face, I want to say that in regard to a solution of the Middle East crisis there has been any difference at all. There will probably be a new development in this regard... and that development will be announced by the Foreign Minister in Parliament tomorrow."

He gave no indication what

of "development" he had

Mr Vance hopes for Salt bargain

Tehran, May 13.—The United States hopes that the strategic arms and the Middle East in Geneva next week will succeed by blending elements from Soviet and American proposals, a senior United States official said today.

Mr Vance, the Secretary of State, and Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, will meet next Wednesday to discuss strategic arms and the Middle East in their first such conference since Mr Vance's inconclusive Moscow talk in March.

Neither side had put forward new proposals, the official told reporters accompanying Mr Vance to Tehran, where he will attend the Central Treaty Organization (Cento) annual meeting opening tomorrow.

The official said he did not know if it would be possible to bridge the gap between Soviet proposals and those of the Americans, which were rejected by the Russians at the Moscow talks.

In Geneva, American and Soviet negotiators met in the first plenary session of the new Salt talks conference sources said. No details were given. They are due to meet again the day before Mr. Vance and Mr. Gromyko begin their talks.

In Riyadh, meanwhile, Dr. Khalid of Saudi Arabia and Dr. Owen, the Foreign Secretary, discussed the Middle East and bilateral relations before Dr. Owen flew on to Tehran for the Cento meeting. —Reuter

Professor Yadin's new party may hold coalition key

Close election is expected to leave Israel's Labour alliance in power despite scandals

From Eric Marsden

Jerusalem, May 13
Mourning for the 54 servicemen killed in the Jordan Valley helicopter tragedy on Tuesday has caused Israel's political parties to compress their efforts and broadcasts, which would have been spread over a week, into four days. Voters go to the polls next Tuesday.

The stages of the campaign have also been clouded by the dispute with the United States over arms supplies. At first sight this seems yet another setback to the ruling Alignment, but last week's opinion poll nevertheless sees Labour remaining the biggest single party, though losing up to 12 of its present 51 seats in the Knesset.

Likud, the main opposition party, which now has 39 seats, is expected to drop two or three. The lesser of the main parties will make up the 15 seats forecast for the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC), the new party headed by Professor Yigal Yadin.

Professor Yadin's party may thus hold the pivotal position in post-election coalition negotiations, taken last week by the National Religious Party (NRP), which is thought likely to drop in strength from 10 to eight seats.

If the poll predictions prove accurate, Mr Shimon Peres, the dominant figure in the cam-

paign since succeeding Mr Rakoff as the Labour leader, will form the new government.

In a coalition with the DMC and the NRP and perhaps one or two members of smaller parties.

Such an outcome would be ironic for Professor Yadin's party, which has based its propaganda on the slogan "Time for a change", but which would in effect be perpetuating the status quo.

Rumours have been spreading that if Labour's losses are heavy it may seek a coalition with Likud, which might develop into a broad-based national government of all but the left-wing parties. This has been denied by an alignment spokesman, but the possibility cannot be ruled out.

Likud leaders believe their strength has been undermined and are confident of becoming the biggest single party, giving Menachem Begin the chance to form a government after almost 30 years in opposition.

A like DMC-NRP government would take a hard line on the issue of peace and borders. Likud is campaigning on a pledge to "say no to America". This is fully supported by the National Religious Party. The DMC, which started out last year as a crusading movement, has since been heavily infiltrated by leftist elements of the old establishment, including several former heads of the

intelligence services and some of Mr Begin's former allies.

The alignment is sticking to the line that its leaders are the only men flexible enough to negotiate with the Arabs through United States mediation, but this hardly suits the militant, aggressive mood of the average Israeli, bitter over an apparent American shift away from Israel's interests.

Officials described the tremor as an "aftershake" from last July's earthquake which reduced Tangshan to rubble. No death toll was published but officials acknowledged that reports of 700,000 were not inaccurate. Chinese leaders said simply it inflicted losses rarely seen in history.

They also referred to serious economic repercussions. Tangshan, once a city of more than a million, was an important coalmining centre. The earthquake caused fuel shortages that resulted in industrial plants closing down. —Reuter

Devastated Chinese city hit by new earthquake

Peking, May 13.—The devastated Chinese city of Tangshan has been hit by another earthquake, the latest in a chain of shocks that has left about 70,000 dead and seriously weakened the nation's economy.

Officials reported today that an earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale struck yesterday. There was no immediate word of casualties.

The epicentre was identified as Ningbo, a railway town close to Tangshan and Tientsin, China's third biggest city, with a population of several million.

The earthquake was felt here, 100 miles away, and followed by freakish weather. After sweltering in tropical humidity yesterday, the capital was lashed by storms. Snow fell on

World pilots ban flights to 'unsafe' Greece

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

Flights to Greece are being seriously affected as a result of the decision yesterday by the International Federation of Air Line Pilots (Ialpa) to advise its members to suspend operations there.

Ialpa took this action after what it termed "unqualified" military air traffic controllers in Greece had replaced civilian air traffic control staff, who are on strike.

The takeover had diminished the level of safety to an unacceptably low level. Ialpa has 60,000 members belonging to 60 member associations, including the British Air Line Pilots Association (Balpa), and its order is likely to be effected. The strike by the Greek civil controllers is planned to last 10 days.

In deciding to ban flights under Greek military controllers, Captain D. F. Pearce, the Balpa president, and members of his board had in mind the serious mid-air collision between two airliners over northern France in 1973. On that occasion, French civil controllers were on strike and the military were in charge.

British Airways said yesterday it stopped flying to Greece late on Thursday night. Two scheduled services from London to Athens were cancelled yesterday.

In all, 11 passengers who had booked holidays to Greece and who were unable to fly would be offered an alternative destination, a holiday at a later date, or a refund.

Sydney: Australian air traffic controllers ended a six-day strike yesterday, allowing airlines to begin transporting up to 50,000 people stranded in Australia and overseas.

An unrelated strike by

Swedish and Norwegian cabin crews of Scandinavian Airlines (Sas) since May 9 has grounded its scheduled flights down all domestic passenger air services in Sweden yesterday.

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SPORT
Racing

Course should help The Minstrel reverse placings with Nebbiolo

From an Irish Racing Correspondent
Dublin, May 13

Nebbiolo, The Minstrel, and Bona-Mis, who filled three of the first five places in the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket, renew rivalry in the Irish equivalent at the Curragh this afternoon. Nebbiolo will be trying to emulate the achievement of Light Tack and Grunty, the only two to complete the Guineas double.

Nebbiolo was an undeterred challenger at Newmarket, for he had been a splendidly consistent two-year-old, winning the Glencar Stakes at Cork, the Lockinge Stakes at the Middle Park, and the Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket. Despite this record of consistency, he was allowed to start at 20-1, but those paddock observers had but criticised his behaviour on the track, where he made no secret of his desire to see short wins. He responded courageously to the driving of Gabriel Curran to turn the tables on his Middle Park conqueror, Tachypom, by a length.

Another result further back in third place came from another outsider, The Minstrel; Bona-Mis, showing that he was not just a mere handicapper, was another two-lengths back in fifth position. In those days, any horse that won in the Guineas, it concerned The Minstrel, who, in a field of 18, had the misfortune to be drawn on the wide outside. Lesser Fugitive

made a mistake in deciding not to hold his position on The Minstrel and work his way across to the middle of the course. This must have cost him at least the two lengths by which he was beaten and it would not surprise me if he were to emerge victorious in the afternoon's 2,000 Guineas, which should suit his style of galloping ideally.

The event has attracted an international line-up, with two English runners—Digitals, backed up Bona-Mis—and Hasty, Replying making the journey from France. A special mention will be accorded to the efforts of Heavy Duty, third to the Derby favourite, Blushing Groom in the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches at Longchamp.

3.50 IRISH 2,000 GUINEAS (3-y-o : £39,855 : 1m)

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SPORT

Football

Liverpool should claim what is rightfully theirs this afternoon

Norman Fox

Football Correspondent
Liverpool, who already hold the record of the most championships won without adding the trophy at Anfield, seem to have done so again. Since 1953, when they rejoined the first division, they have not finished lower than fifth and in the past five years, when they were third, in the amateur game of football, their manager, John Giles, makes his final home appearance.

Sunderland have gained 24 points from their last 17 games under the management of Jimmy Adamson, yet because others remain under threat of relegation, at Norwich they will be at full strength and will need to be. Coventry's position is still uncertain and, while from Middlesbrough City only four days after receiving Liverpool is a testing way to win security, City must win by a substantial score to have even a wide outside chance of supplanting Liverpool, supposing Liverpool do not manage to win the remaining games. Middlesbrough and Newcastle are missing from their attack through suspension and injury respectively.

Portsmouth and Southampton are again in contention for promotion on this last Saturday of the season. Bolton Wanderers need three points from two games to join Wolverhampton Wanderers in the second division. Curiously, it is Wolves they play today. The third division promises the hardest match of the programme. Wrexham must beat Darlington to give them a chance of Crystal Palace, who must start back and await the outcome.

No wonder some of the Palace players have asked to play in the team which has the honour of being the right-hand property of Liverpool.

Their football of the last 20 years only Wolverhampton Wanderers and Manchester United have retained the title, thus proving the difficulty in maintaining the highest form for so long. After all, the clubs have been blessed by the more favourable fixtures of more competitions for a longer season. Yesterday Paisley, their manager, added: "It has been a long, tiring year but I am looking forward to it finishing tomorrow." He is expected to send out an unchanged team, with Callaghan as a substitute.

Liverpool's pride and dedication will, we hope, make it particularly difficult on this special occasion. West Ham would be delighted with a point to help them out of severe relegation problems.

Johnny Giles: Last home appearance for West Bromwich.

last game as manager; Stoke City, who have fallen on bad times at the wrong moment, may include the wrong centre forward to add the trophy to Anfield's collection. Since 1953, when they rejoined the first division, they have not finished lower than fifth and in the past five years, when they were third, in the amateur game of football, their manager, John Giles, makes his final home appearance.

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the return of Saul

Frank Sams seeks a footballer's "golden" age in an amateur League club, Dagenham, to end the northern domination of the FA Challenge Trophy in today's final against its holders, Scarborough. The year-old Saul, 18, has come along almost 10 years to the Adams after scoring in Tottenham's 1-FA Cup success over Chelsea. Dagenham's goalkeeper, Hutton, and captain, Moore, are making their third Wembley appearance.

London, May 13.—Sayers, much today bought a Swindon team, Benny Wenda, from Kenforn, Borussia, for £160,000.

ennis

Spectacular wins for youngsters

From Ron Reddaway
Tennis Correspondent

Dallas, May 13.

The seventh World Championship Tennis play-off series commands an extraordinary place in the history of the game. Four United States players, three of whom born in New York, have now made one appearance for the England Under-23 side, and with the Chelsea pair, Stanley and Williams, also included, Dan Davis is 15, and after scoring in Tottenham's 1-FA Cup success over Chelsea, Dagenham's goalkeeper, Hutton, and captain, Moore, are making their third Wembley appearance.

Because of the commitments of players involved in league matches next week, Mr. Revie has had to rely heavily on Manchester City, the 18-year-olds included the England

Revie chooses Nattrass

Irving Nattrass, the Newcastle United full back, and Paul Fletcher, the Luton Town centre half, Watson, who has 19 caps; the goalkeeper, Corrigan (one cap), Royle (six), and Tizard (three). However, there is some doubt whether Tizard will play as he failed a fitness test for his club match today.

The most capped man in the side is Chapman, who has so far collected 39 caps, including 15 under Mr. Revie.

TEAM: J. Corrigan (Macclesfield); P. Fletcher (Southampton); G. Royle (Swindon); C. Watson (Luton); I. Nattrass (Celtic); T. Tizard (Sheffield United); D. Fletcher (Gateshead); C. Chapman (Chelsea); P. Watson (Bury); G. Williams (Newcastle); D. Davis (Brentford); P. Moore (Swindon); P. Hutton (Dagenham).

Mr. Revie, 18, has had to rely heavily on Manchester City, the 18-year-olds included the England

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Saturday Review

An extract
from the first
novel

by Antonia Fraser

At Blessed Eleanor's Convent in Sussex,
one of the younger nuns, Sister Miriam,
has apparently starved herself to death in a
ruined tower on the edge of the grounds.

Under the guise of making a programme about
women in religious orders, Jemima Shore, a
highly successful television reporter, is staying
at the convent in order to investigate this and
other disquieting happenings. Jemima Shore is
not a Catholic herself but did attend the school
as a daygirl in wartime, when she formed a
close friendship with Sister Miriam, then
Rosabelle Powerstock and heiress to one of the
largest fortunes in Britain. She has come back
to Blessed Eleanor's now, after a gap of many
years, in response to an urgent and
surprising plea from her former headmistress,

Reverend Mother Ancilla :

"Jemima, something is going on here..."



Illustration by Franklin Wilson

Night of the Black Nun

It was Dodo, at supper on the Feast of All Souls, who inquired: "I wonder if anyone saw the black nun last night?" Her tone was rather bright. Dodo was such a pretty plump little thing with fair curls and a Cupid's bow mouth, that noticing she said sounded completely serious. But I noted a wry expression on Margaret's face, a slight compression of the lips.

"Aren't all nuns black?" I responded lightly.

The death of Sister Edward had not cast a notable shadow on their spirits:

she was too young to have taught them. But I wanted to get the conversation away from the events of the night before.

"I'm talking about The-Black-Nun," Dodo gave the three last words sepulchral emphasis. "An apparition. Did you never see it when you were at the school?"

"No—well, I do remember something vaguely. Doesn't it haunt the chapel? Or is it the tower?" Margaret said: "And the convent itself. Sister Miriam told us she actually saw the Black Nun when she was girl at school."

"She didn't tell me. It must have only bobbed up after dark. I was a day girl. You tell me."

"Dodo, you tell." Dodo was nothing loath. It transpired that the Black Nun was commonly held to appear shortly before or shortly after the death of a member of the community. Yes, of course, all nuns wore black, but the point of the Black Nun was that you suddenly came across a nun you didn't recognise, a nun you had never seen before. You imagined: a novice, a transfer from another convent. But the next day you heard of

the death of a nun. And of course you never saw the Black Nun, not particular Black Nun again.

I burst out laughing.

"You don't believe us," said one of the other girls at the table rather grumpily. "But some of us saw the Black Nun three nights after Sister Miriam ran away. And then turned out to be the night she must have died!" Much chattering followed. Yes, a strange nun, a nun they had never seen before, a nun with a strange face, passing them at night in the corridor, on their way to... their way to where? Why, the chapel. To make a novena to Our Lady. And then night they heard later, Sister Miriam had given up the ghost in the tower. Surely I had to admit it all added up.

On the contrary, it all sounded deeply implausible to me. Another enigmatic novena in the middle of the night: something I was fairly sure was not allowed by the rules. When I was informed that the Black Nun had first appeared to Blessed Eleanor herself, goodness knows how many years ago, I scoffed openly. Six black nuns were supposed to have carried her to her tower, and at the last moment a seventh unknown nun appeared. Blessed Eleanor, the messenger who she was, and the answer came back pat: "I am Death itself, who comes before you as a Black Nun."

"None of that delightful story appears in the Treasury of the Blessed Eleanor," I commented in a fairly acid voice. "Exactly," Sister Miriam said us about it. She used to tell us ghost stories after lights out. I was glad to hear that in one respect at least my old friend had not changed. Ghost stories and ghoulish information generally had been Rosa's speciality.

"Anyway, somebody did see the Black Nun last night," said the grumpy girl, suddenly. Blanche, Blanche Nelligan, was

her name. She did not look like a Blanche, being beetle-browed with rather a bad complexion.

"Tessa Justin, that girl with plait in the Lower IVth. I was on prefect duty in the big dormitory and Sister Agnes was doing the rounds. Suddenly young Tessa appeared, shrieking her head off, plait flying; saying a strange nun had interrupted her in the loo. That must have been the Black Nun."

At this we all laughed. A minute later the chairs were scraping back for grace and supper was over. I decided not to give another thought to the Black Nun. I enjoyed my solitary tray of coffee after the girls' chatter. Then I climbed up the visitors' staircase to my own retreat. I really felt that I had quite enough problems on my hands without the question of a spectral religious haunting the junior school bathrooms. The Black Nun was scarcely likely to bother me.

Once I was installed in my room and had looked at the papers on my desk, I saw that I was wrong.

"If you don't believe in the Black Nun"—so ran a typed message on a sheet of plain paper placed on top of my copy of *The Times*—"why don't you come to the tower one night and see for yourself?" Tomorrow night for example."

There was no superscription and no signature. Jutting out from the paper, on the front cover of *The Times* I saw a photograph of Tom on the platform of his WNG rally. That looked like Emily Crispin at his elbow with some papers on her lap. Neither of them looked particularly ghoulish. The photograph gave me no consolation whatsoever.

The Next Day

Sister Liz and I paraded round the hockey fields. I watched an extremely energetic black figure hurtling towards the goal with a hockey stick which I had never noticed. Sister Immaculata. Surely she could not still be playing hockey after all these years. I remembered what a shock it gave me to find that nuns, at the sight of a hockey field, merely looped up their black skirts, and recited the game with their usual brisk efficiency, veils and all. The maroon coloured figures of the girls were considerably more lackadaisical in their attitude to the game.

The only other participant showing any energy at all was wearing a short black skirt, black stockings, a black fur-trimmed veil with a white collar and a short black veil which revealed most of her hair—luxuriant hair. A postulant. I had to look up the word in the dictionary while I was at school. Postulant: Candidate, especially for admission into religious order. Tom I suppose was a parliamentary postulant as the general election. At least I was firmly on the side of his election. I wasn't sure what I felt about this girl's candidature. From the convent's point of view, however, it was a good thing that there were still some new vocations around: now that the Order of the Tower of Ivory had once been my friend. My compassion, such as it was, was reserved for the memory of Sister Edward who would soon

"She's Irish", said Sister Elizabeth, following the direction of my gaze. "Of course."

Sister Elizabeth was a woman for whom I had a genuine affection, nun or no nun. Her generosity of spirit, her mad enthusiasm for literature in all its forms, endeared her to me. There was a Margaret Rutherford touch about her zest. With her flailing arms, springy walk (signally untouched by the passage of twenty-five years), and her earnestness, she really was not unlike my idea of Margaret Rutherford, supposing she had ever played the part of a nun.

Sister Liz was the only woman in the world capable of exclaiming: "I thanked Our Blessed Lord on my knees this morning for making Wordsworth write the *Prelude* at such length!"

Of course as a schoolgirl I was attracted to her, just because her values did not seem totally permeated by those of the Catholic religion. We had corresponded in a desultory way after I left. "I shall pray for you," Sister Liz dutifully ended her letters. But I knew she prayed for sensible things like a proper understanding of *Paradise Lost* or a real appreciation of *The Waste Land*, not lost causes like my conversion.

Now we chatted easily on literary matters. The Chemistry of King Lear was one topic: Sister Liz's determination to discuss Joyce's job came as a move of a surprise to me. Then realising that she must have few opportunities to discuss Joyce's work. Of the two of us, it was I, not Sister Elizabeth, who shrank from discussing fully some aspects of Joyce's nature. I was uncertain where I should draw the line in order not to shock her. Sister Liz was on the other hand had a kind of sublime frankness about her remarks which left nothing to the imagination. It sprang, I realised, from innocence: my own innocence was rooted in ignorance.

Only the fact that our returning steps had led us to the cemetery to the nun's little cemetery made Sister Liz draw breath. We paused and, by unspoken agreement, entered through the low gate. It was an out-of-the-way place. The girls did not come here. The seclusion was ensured by the high dark hedge surrounding the grass. Rows of plain stone crosses marked the last resting places of the community. The tombstone of Sister Miriam Powerstock O.T.I. 1932-1973 R.I.P.

At my side I noted that Sister Liz crossed herself. Then she held her rosary and her lips move silently. I felt nothing, nothing at all. Then feelings did rush in, overwhelmingly, into the vacuum. I fear fiercely that there was no connexion, none at all between this plain stone cross and the young girl who had once been my friend. My compassion, such as it was, had ever got to probing my religious beliefs. I ignored the implied question. Besides, I had an irreverent desire to

laugh at the idea of television in the guise of Abraham's bosom—Magalithic House. In any case, I was not unmoved by solemn thought, rather the contrary. The sight of the Tower of Destruction was more upsetting than I had anticipated.

After a silence Sister Elizabeth said simply: "I love that poem. I first learnt it as a girl. I am not sure it did not influence me, towards the Order, and towards my writing. The idea of a nun breathless in adoration. So calm. So free. I've played the part of a nun."

Abruptly I asked Sister Liz if she would accompany me across the fields to the tower. I pulled the key out of my pocket. It was a bright new Yale key. The key to the padlock which now secured the tower, as Mother Ancilla had instructed me. Not the ancient rusty key which had broken off during Rosa's frantic struggles to escape her self-imposed fate. By now I needed to exercise that tower for myself, and Sister Liz with her warmth and compassion, her understanding of people beyond the narrow prescription of the convent, was the right person to accompany me. The evening's possible adventure had quite vanished from my mind.

As we skirted the fields, trying to avoid the squelching mud left by the rain, a later afternoon sun emerged from the barred clouds, illuminating the November landscape. Sister Elizabeth began in her special faraway poetic voice, which like her walk, had not changed. Her eyes rolled in wonder as she spoke. It was as though she was receiving a direct message from the poet, line by line:

It is a beauteous evening, calm and free

The holy time is quiet, as a Nun,

Breathless with adoration.

By this time we were in sight of the tower, black, shorter than I remembered—oh, the shrinkings brought about by time—the sun was beginning to sink behind it. I was reminded of a card in the tarot pack: the Tower of Destruction depicted by a tower very similar in design, out of which spilled unhappy falling people in mediæval dress. Yes, Tower of Destruction indeed and Rosa's destruction too. All it seemed quite inappropriate under the circumstances to contemplate a late night rendezvous with some prauish schoolgirls pretending to be ghosts. I would lay my own ghost and then depart.

Dear Child! dear Girl! that

walkest with me here,

If thou appear untouched by

sorrows,

Thy nature is not therefore less

divine;

Thou hast in Abraham's

bosom all the year...

Sister Elizabeth's sonorous litanian was drawing to its close.

"Somehow those last lines rather remind me of you, Jemima," she said afterwards. There was a charming note of hope in her voice. I realized that this literary reference was the nearest Sister Liz would ever get to probing my religious beliefs. I ignored the implied question. Besides, I had an irreverent desire to

laugh at the idea of television in the guise of Abraham's bosom—Magalithic House. In any case, I was not unmoved by solemn thought, rather the contrary. The sight of the Tower of Destruction was more upsetting than I had anticipated.

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"I love that poem. I first learnt it as a girl. I am not sure it did not influence me, towards the Order, and towards my writing. The idea of a nun breathless in adoration. So calm. So free. I've played the part of a nun."

"What is it?" I could see nothing from behind her.

"Nothing really. It must be the children. A silly practical joke."

I was going frantic. Much more slowly, Sister Elizabeth lumbered up the last rungs and vanished into the room. I clambered up after her at speed. When I entered the room, Sister Elizabeth was leaning one hand on the table and panting.

The only other piece of furniture in the room was a large wooden rocking chair. Just as I remembered, in fact. Draped in the chair and over it was a nun's black habit. Including a veil and rosary and all the other accoutrements you would need if you were to dress yourself up as a nun. Or as Sister Elizabeth with her untouchable love of literature probably escaped a measure of frustration.

We unlocked the padlock—new, like the key—and entered the tower. The air was dark. Since the ground floor was windowless it was also dark. By the light of the open door we climbed up the wooden ladder to the first floor. We went in single file. I let Sister Elizabeth lead the way. On the first floor there would be one window high up in the wall overlooking the farmlands beyond. You could neither see the convent from the tower nor be seen from it. A further window in the first floor, on the convent side, had been blocked up in the nineteenth century.

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At first glance there was certainly the impression of a black nun sitting there in the chair. A faceless nun. But the faceless did not outlast the second. We were looking at a set of empty and thus lifeless black clothes. Except

"No shoes or stockings," I thought suddenly, remembering my glimpse of Sister Elizabeth's stockings and goloshes.

"The children. It must be the children. They have an innocent sense of humour. They don't realize how distressing these things can be," Sister Elizabeth muttered. She made no move to touch the clothes. I noticed, "I'll tell Mother Ancilla and someone will fetch the habit in the morning."

I thought: Yes. The children. The children—with their innocent sense of humour—had prepared some kind of reception for me.

Then I, by my early visit, had sprung this trap.

I wrinkled my nose. In the damp air, another smell disturbed me. A smell which should not have been there. For a moment I could not quite place it, although it was one of the most familiar smells of my urban life. I gazed around and my eye fell on the empty fireplace. Not quite empty. At the back of the fireplace carelessly thrown down, were a host of cigarette stubs. No attempt had been made to conceal them.

I wondered if the nun's habit, which was to greet me tonight had after all intended to be empty. Maybe I should have to pay a return visit in the Tower. It was an unlikely ghost who smoked Gauloises. And in such quantity. My spirits rose. Forewarned was traditionally forearmed. The Black Nun, habit and all, could expect a somewhat cynical reception from me in the late hours of the evening.

Sister Elizabeth reached the trap door and pushed it open. She poked her head through the trap door.

There was an audible gasp.

And Sister Elizabeth stopped

quite still on the last rung of the ladder. Then there was silence. She did not move.

"Sister Liz—" I said after a minute, anxiously.

"It's all right, my child," she replied, rather heavily.

"Just that I had rather a shock."

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"Nothing really. It must be the children. A silly practical joke."

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Art The treasures of Holkham

be visitor to Holkham Hall in Norfolk, overwhelmed by its architectural splendour and the richness of its paintings and furniture, could easily be forgiven for not realising that also contains a magnificent collection of drawings, particularly since most of them are only now kept in their original portfolios. Some are, however, framed and until May 27 there is a precious opportunity to see over 100 of these in the exhibition at Agnew's, 10 Bond Street, which is well deservedly busy these days.

The owner of Holkham, Thomas Coke, first Earl of Leicester (1732-1800) also formed a collection of drawings, any of which he acquired at the age of 15, while still some hot rodder of his tutor, Dr. John Hunter, a learned and cultivated fellow Christie, Cambridge, and, like his young master of Norfolk, stuck. They remained stored for nearly six years, during much of the time in one, where the young Earl was received by Angelo Tremonti, James Less-Milne, in his vivid account of his life in *Lord of Cremona* (1952) describes it as "the portrait of what was intelligent youth, a serious and brooding character". Less-Milne suggests that it was in the Roman studio of the expatriate Milanese painter Benedetto Luti (1665-1724) that Coke met William Kent, the eventual architect of Holkham and one of the most important influences on the formation of the young man's taste.

Lut's name as a collector of drawings, of which he owned some 14,000, almost overshadowed his reputation as a painter, and he may have communicated his enthusiasm to Coke, who not only purchased scores from him, but was also the recipient of the gift of two delightful pastels, each depicting the "Dead of a Sri", whom an early tradition identifies as the archangel Michael. One of them is inscribed with a dedication to the Ilinoi Sige. Coke's Cooke collection is gone on to describe as already "nobilisima".

Two other drawings by Luti are included in the exhibition, one of which, "Jesu and Isra", is "incredibly reminiscent" (in the words of Clotus Whieldon and Gabriel Naughy, who compiled the encyclopedic catalogue) of Carlo Maratta, that most classical of Baroque painters, and easily the most admired artist in Rome in the late seventeenth century. Six drawings by him are exhibited, two of which depict "The Annunciation", though both, apparently, late to the same composition, are utterly contrasted in technique and style; one, a rather static composition executed in red chalk, and the other a much freer version in ink and wash. This latter surely belonged to Luti, and must have been acquired by the Earl in the 1750s.

through the intermediary of Gavin Hamilton, the Scots Neoclassical painter, whose services have not always survived modern critical scrutiny.

Sometimes, however, a drawing has turned out to be more than just less interesting, such as the fine "Mary Magdalene and St Andrew", acquired from Hamilton as a Clio Fresco, but identified by Philip Pouncey as an advanced compositional study for the sharpness by Giandomenico Belotti, in Bernini's exquisite oval church of San Andrea al Quirinale, built between 1653 and 1670. Belotti, who was born in the Franche-Comté, was a pupil of Pierre de Cortone, who is represented by a large, highly finished "Crucifixion with the Virgin, St John and St Mary Magdalene", two allegorical studies and two superb examples of his rare landscape drawings, which seem, however, to have been remarkably individual.

Thomas Coke's favourite landscape artist was Claude, to whose paintings a whole room at Holkham is dedicated, and it is not surprising to find several of his drawings in the collection, some of which are related to identifiable paintings, such as the astonishing broad and vigorous "View of Genoa", which comes as a refreshing contrast to the monotonous dryness of so many of the drawings in the "Liber Veritatis". Genoa was the birthplace of one of the most appealing of all seveneenth-century Italian painters, G. B. Castiglione, whose "Nature" carries out in a mixture of pen, ink, wash and oil colours displays his highly individual talents at their best and most characteristic.

Another "outsider" who is well represented in the exhibition is Pier Francesco Mola, born in the Ticino in 1612,

Jeffery Daniels



Mola's St. John the Baptist: pen and brown ink over red chalk.

Chess My top ten

which are the ten most interesting personages in the story of chess? Perhaps this is a question that can never be answered properly, or, at any rate, to the satisfaction of everybody since all judgment such matters must inevitably be subjective. *Chican's son* applies here and the answer is further complicated by the fact that the world of chess seems, and has always been, full of the most colourful, not to say eccentric, characters.

So much so that I think I've to leave my chance to the hundred years. A pity, in my view, one thinks of the magnificent panoramas of our figures that chess has offered almost since its invention some 1,500 years ago.

There is a plethora even if it starts at the point when old form of chess was merged into the new or modern game round about the th century. There was the Fiddler who was a great chess player at the court of the Mogul Emperor, in the early 15th century, either he was the one with a lamp nor recorded but modestly confessed to having passed all his time among chess masters of his age to have beaten them all, have travelled through Iraq, Iran and Transoxiana, and there were men with many a star in this art, and I have had with all of them, and though the favour of him who Adorable and Most High I've come off victorious" — a man of a generous position, willing to admit it's not all his doing. I have many such myself.

Or, passing to Europe, consider the two great Italians, Paolo Boi and Leonardo da Vinci. Both, after colourful lives involving, among things, rescue of either themselves or their relatives by defeating pirates at chess, perished by the normal processes of the time, viz. poison at the hands of jealous rivals.

Move on to the seventeenth century when the great Italian player was Greco. Calabrese who, at the age of 21, won 5,000 crowns playing at the court of the Duke of Lorraine. I should have liked to have had his opinion of English players since, after his sojourn in France, he came to England and was robbed of all his money by thieves on his way to London.

Fortunately the last three are still very much with us and are a constant delight and pleasure for the connoisseur of the strange and paradoxical.

As illustration, a beautiful game played at Sandomierz in Poland last year.

White: Brustein. Black: Dubois. QN Dutch Defence

1 P-Q4 P-KB4 2 P-KR3

The Staunton Gambit, an old favourite with Brustein.

2 P-Q5 P-KB4 3 R-QB5 K-KB3

An unusual move. The two main alternatives are 4 P-B3 and 4 R-KK3.

4 P-Q4

Safier is 4... P-KR3.

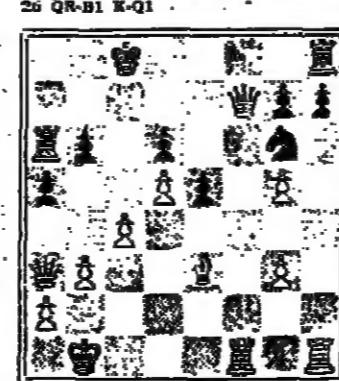
5 P-Q5 K-KB3 6 P-KN4

Aggressive play, but after 6... Pd5; 7 QxP, White has a strong initiative.

7 P-Q5

He is mated after 7... Pd5; 8 R-KN5 KxP.

Harry Golombek



Harry Golombek

Investment and Finance

JOHN PLAYER CENTENARY FESTIVAL

Friday 1 July Royal Festival Hall 8 p.m.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Andre Previn

"Every Good Boy Deserves Favour" A new play by Tom Stoppard with music by Andre Previn

Saturday 2 July Queen Elizabeth Hall 7.45 p.m.

NATIONAL YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Sunday 3 July Royal Albert Hall 7.30 p.m.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Black Dyke Mills Band John Shirley-Quirk (conductor)

Programme includes Walton: "Belshazzar's Feast"

Monday 4 July Colchester Theatre 8 p.m.

NATIONAL THEATRE COMPANY

The first of six performances of *Julius Caesar*, including the premiere of a new adaptation by Terry Norton and Marion Nettlehouse

Tuesday 5 July Round House 7.30 p.m.

BALLET RAMBERT

The first of six performances of a new ballet choreographed by Christopher Bruce and Lindsay Kemp

Wednesday 6 July Queen Elizabeth Hall 7.45 p.m.

KING'S COLLEGE CHOIR, CAMBRIDGE

The Orchestra of St. John's, Smith Square Music by Ravel

Wednesday 6 July Haymarket Theatre 11.30 p.m.

VICTORIAN BALLOADS

Andre Previn/Robert Tear/Benjamin Layton

Thursday 7 July Westminster Cathedral 8 p.m.

KING'S COLLEGE CHOIR, CAMBRIDGE

The Orchestra of St. John's, Smith Square Music by Ravel

Friday 8 July Royal Albert Hall 7.30 p.m.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Andre Previn

A performance of *Messiah* "Tenebrae"

Saturday 9 July Royal Albert Hall 7.30 p.m.

JUBILEE CHORAL EVENING

National Philharmonic Orchestra Conductor: John Alldis, Benjamin Luxon (soloists)

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Itzhak Perlman

Lynn Harrell

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FRIDAY, 27 MAY, at 6.30

Van Watten Management presents

ORCHESTRA OF ST. JOHN'S, SMITH SQ.

Conductor: JOHN LUBBOCK

Brandenburg Concerto No. 1 in F major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 in E major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 in D major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 4 in G major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 in E major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 in B major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 7 in A major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 8 in F major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 9 in C major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 10 in G major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 11 in B major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 12 in A major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 13 in F major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 14 in D major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 15 in C major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 16 in B-flat major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 17 in G major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 18 in F major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 19 in E major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 20 in D major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 21 in A major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 22 in G major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 23 in E major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 24 in C major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 25 in A major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 26 in F major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 27 in D major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 28 in B-flat major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 29 in G major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 30 in E major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 31 in C major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 32 in A major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 33 in F major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 34 in D major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 35 in B-flat major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 36 in G major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 37 in E major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 38 in C major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 39 in A major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 40 in F major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 41 in D major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 42 in B-flat major

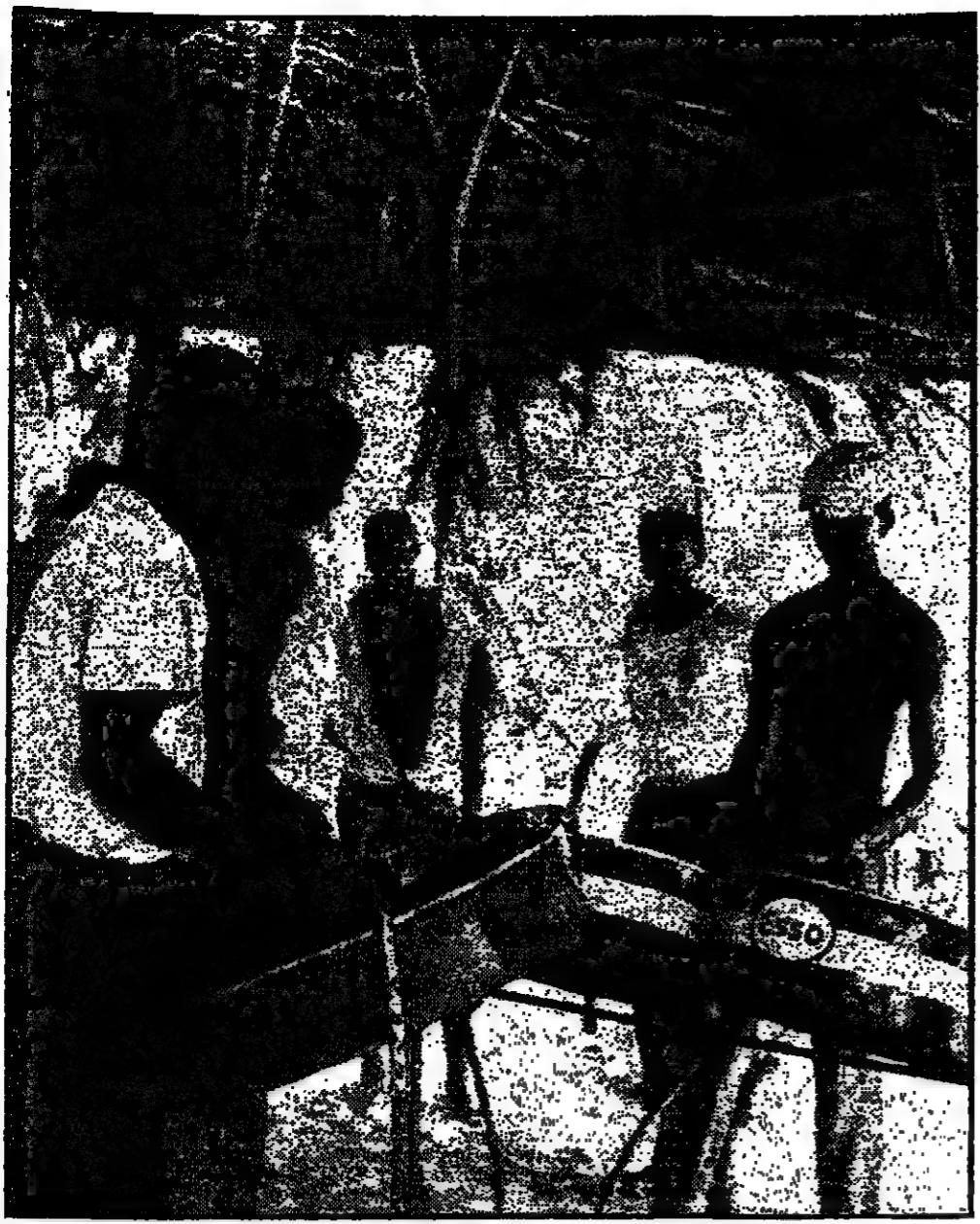
Brandenburg Concerto No. 43 in G major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 44 in E major

Brandenburg Concerto No. 45 in C major

Travel

Sun, sea and steel bands



Through a faint sea-mist we could see the shoulder of South America some seven miles distant. Trinidad, where we stood, was once part of this great continent whose wild life it reflects in miniature.

Before Columbus the native Americans called Trinidad "lere", the Land of the Flaming Bird. The island has long been an ornithologist's delight. Even tourists, whose interest in bird-life is minimal, throng by boat to the Caroni marshes near Port of Spain. At sunset, thousands upon thousands of smaller birds homeward to their nests after daily foraging for tiny tree oysters.

On several evenings after dark we strolled around Port of Spain's huge Seven Hills Park amid a sea of singing flocks—mostly youths (very few girls), all intent on listening to the steel band competitions. As if to prove the universality of music, one or two bands even had the odd white player, which must have been something of a privilege because "pan" music, the drums are called, originated in Trinidad, as did the calypso.

One problem for visitors to Trinidad is finding good but cheap accommodation. The cheaper hotels seemed distinctly run down. Although the welcome to foreigners is genuine, the Government has avoided too much dependence on tourism. A number of areas have been earmarked for tourist development, but only one has so far begun to take shape at Maracas beach, which is a popular weekend resort for Port of Spain near by. In fact the adjoining Las Cuevas has an even better beach, but is largely left to the fishermen and their wives.

hands of gleaming king fish probably because of the tiny sand flies.

In our search for accommodation, the tourist office put us in touch with the guest house association, who were very helpful, gave us lists, and made a few phone calls on our behalf. They soon found us an excellent private guest house called "Monte Vista" in Maraval, which was spotlessly clean, and we were treated as part of the family. They provided a small kitchen for the use of guests. Monsieur's husband, who had retired early, had a reputation for relaxed, Trinidadiing humour.

We soon found ourselves bumping and jolting on an unsurfaced road across the southern range of the Trinity Hills through dense jungle with never a house or hut to be seen.

Or any road leading off. We saw only one other car on the whole 20 miles or so to Rio Claro, which seemed closer a hundred miles.

Suddenly we came out into open country and behold an

endless field of sugar cane through Sangre Grande to the rugged north-eastern cape Toco, which we had been unable to reach from Blanchisseuse. The east coast of the island is kept pleasantly cool by the Trade Winds, which blow steadily onshore, but since it is open to the Atlantic the sea can be rough on this side. That night the wind howled incessantly, shaking the windows, but next day all was calm. Sunbathing for miles along the broad sandy beach were thousands of small plastic balloons. On closer examination they proved to be Portuguese Men-of-War.

We soon found ourselves bumping and jolting on an unsurfaced road across the southern range of the Trinity Hills through dense jungle with never a house or hut to be seen.

Or any road leading off. We saw only one other car on the whole 20 miles or so to Rio Claro, which seemed closer a hundred miles.

Suddenly we came out into

open country and behold an endless field of sugar cane which were still harvesting. Or we drove across the western prong of the island towards the great pitch lake. To be truthful its existence was one of the few things I knew for certain about Trinidad and that centuries ago Sir Walter Raleigh had cracked his ship there with its tar.

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ming is from Store Bay that most of the glass-bottom boats put out for Buccoo Reef, and its coral gardens, a marvellous wonder which reveals itself from a distance as a pale jade streak in the cobalt waters. This is the island's only "dry" beach—but it is equipped with beautifully maintained thatch shelters, showers and picnic benches. Families come down for the day, and in the French manner, with ice cold导演 pots of curried or of calabash soups (another native treat, made from fresh land crab and dasheen leaves)—and altogether every combination and permutation of domestic comfort.

Doone Beal

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Gardening Never say die, at least not yet

Soon now we will be able to make a realistic assessment of the losses caused by last year's drought. I would wait until mid-June before giving up hope for a plant that looks dead. Many azaleas took great beating, but many I know are breaking into growth from ground level. Many older feather plants looked dead at the end of the summer, still look dead, and probably are, because heathers do not usually break into new growth from old stems or from below ground.

Hardy fuchsias took a beating in some gardens and looked very dead. But the fuchsia comes from hot climes, and I think most will recover. Mine had their top growth killed by the frosts in January, but are breaking again from the base, as indeed has happened for many years.

Of course some shrubs, like *Choisya ternata*, did not like the dry summer or the cold snaps in winter, and there are dead shoots to be clipped off, but then this often happens. Conifers that looked brown and dead at the end of the summer still look dead, and I fear will have to be removed or replaced.

One is told in the books not to replant, for example asparagus, in the same bed—if a plant dies do not replace it. The rose specialists say you should remove a large amount of soil and replace it if you wish to plant new roses in an

old bed. This is probably common sense, as so much of our gardening advice must be. Yet I have successfully replaced asparagus plants that have died. If a large clump of heather has really died I would dig it out, fork over the soil well, work in a mixture of peat and bone meal in the proportion of one part peat to three parts bone meal, and replace with six three or four young heathers to get a quick replacement ground cover.

I am a great believer when planting trees or shrubs, in the value of a peat and bone-meal mixture. A double handful of bone meal well mixed with two gallon bucket full of moist peat worked into say a square yard of planting site can give a tree or shrub a wonderful start in life, and an incentive for two of the mixture should be spread under and over the roots before the planting hole is filled in with soil. I have, of course, to make the proviso that one should not put a lot of peat into a planting hole made in a heavy clay soil, and fill with water, drowning the roots of the plants.

At this time of year it is well to take the shears or secateurs and trim winter flowering heathers, cutting the shoots made last year back to about half their length. Santolina, the cotton lavender, can be pruned hard now, cutting it back almost to ground level if desired. Nepeta, too, may be trimmed hard now if it has not already been cut back.

Our climate is really very kind, mainly equable, and it

permits us to grow a greater variety of plants than can be grown in any other part of the world. But in spring it can be caustic and, for gardening scribes like me, fraught with difficulties. As I write I am afraid that we will have cool weather with cold, and maybe frosty nights, even until the end of May, because the soil temperature is several degrees below what it should be at this time.

So I suggest that we make haste slow. Don't be in a hurry to sow French or runner beans if you live in a cold part of the country. They will still give you a crop sown even at the end of May. Don't rush to plant out tender plants like daffodils, geraniums, tomatoes and the like, until the weather really shows that it has warmed up.

But, distrustful as I always am about our weather, I would suggest we be prepared for a sudden change to warm and dry conditions. If you have, or can buy, any mulching material that you can put on the garden—compost, half-decayed leaves, peat, spent hops or the like—put it on now while the soil is still moist.

Thin and weed all crops raised from seed, flowers and vegetables, at the earliest opportunity. This is me a number one priority, no matter what the weather may be, because seedlings of many plants can be grievously checked if they are left to fight each other and the weeds for air, sun, straw, food and moisture. Some never recover fully from a check to the seedling stage.

If you are growing vegetables for the first time, or

even if you have always grown some, think ahead a bit and do some planning for successive sowings. Too often people have a great sowing session around Easter and then sit back and do no more sowings. We should, if we want the crops, sow a short row of lettuces every 14 to 20 days from now until August. I still go for Webb's Wonderlet as a lettuce that will not bolt to seed in the weather. But, Sutsons' and Dubies offer packets of mixed cos and cabbage lettuce, and these will give you a steady harvest for a good month if you start cutting them when they are quite small.

We can make two or three more sowings of peas at 10-14 day intervals, and we can sow dwarf French beans later as the first week in June, as far south as the south of England, and be fairly sure of a good crop to follow those we sow in May.

Roy Hay

Because of the silver jubilee the Royal Horticultural Society's Chelsea flower show is being held a week earlier than usual so that the Queen can make her private visit on Monday, May 16, the day before the show opens.

The show, in the grounds of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea, will be open as follows: Tuesday, May 17, 8.30 am to 8 pm, private view only for holders of members' tickets; Wednesday, May 18, 8.30 am to 8 pm, £3 (for non-members); Thursday, May 19, 8.30 am to 8 pm, £2; Friday, May 20, 8.30 am to 5 pm, £1.50.

Compared with Trinidad, Tobago is a house in the trees. Only 25 minutes away by air, it is where the rich from Part of Spain commute to their week-end homes and for weeks and perches, as well as of huge copper and citrus plantations. Otherwise Tobago is a "Mera", not for oil production, but rather for ornithologists, as well as the quieter and more leisurely tourist—for in its somewhat one-eyed way, it is among the loveliest and least developed of all the Caribbean islands.

A rugged ellipse in shape, Tobago's landscape merges somewhere in the middle from coral to volcanic soil, from flat, palm-lined beaches at the western end where the resort hotels are, to the mountainous, jungly beauty of Speyside at the eastern extremity. The Bird of Paradise, the bird of paradise, is a good choice for a good, well-balanced lunch (quite different from the conventional offerings) with Mr and Mrs Lau, who run it.

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Doone Beal

Bridge

The beaten track

Many players, when reading stories about bridge, which were so fresh when I first heard them, say that an unorthodox pass was the only road to safety. The reason behind this seductive bait must be that our attitude to bidding has become too scientific and insufficiently speculative. We know that with 27 points in high cards or equivalent distribution, values in declarer should be in game and we relish the deals where experts have gone down in obeying their theories.

How often have you heard or read, "The opponents made a serious mistake or serious mistakes" or "an unorthodox pass was the only road to safety"? I am talking of a situation where the declarer scored heavily, but they had their moment of glory, and it is such unexpected successes that bridge continues to drive. Experts are always ready to acknowledge mistakes and one of them accused himself of a serious error in defence. He was in the most ordinary situation of having to discard after his partner had announced at the end of the play that he had thrown the wrong card. Was he to blame?

West led the A5 to the Q1 declarer ducked the trick winning the spade return and cashing his clubs. On the third club West discarded the Q3 and on South's lead of the K2 to the Q1 West discarded a second heart. East had to decide whether to throw a heart or a diamond on the Q1. With all the hands exposed his decision seems to have little bearing on the final score because he can lead out the Q1 and West has then no card of entry for his spades. West knows he has then a five-card suit and is likely to have the Q4.

How then was East to dissuade declarer from playing hearts? He gave the discard much thought and threw the Q2, preserving his double guard in the suit and suggesting to declarer that the trick might come from the low diamond. He had overlooked one important fact.

Declarer led a small diamond from dummy and, because East had compounded his play, he cashed the Q1, leading to the K2. Despite the information from the bidding that West held the A4, declarer could not escape from a trick penalty, so the Italian gained 50 on the board, in spite of having lost two chances to make game.

East blamed himself for not having thrown a heart, because he could then have won the diamond with the Q4 and cleared the spades. I am inclined to believe that the Queen was not entirely at fault because, if he had discarded a heart, declarer might have tried to sneak a trick in that suit but

Edward Mayer

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Collecting Mementoes of Mentmore

the first chapter of Joseph Conrad's *Henry Fielding* suggests that Colley Cibber had his life "only in order" if he got it. Looking at the first catalogues of the great Mentmore sale which begins a furniture auction on Tuesday, one could almost guess that Sotheby's are giving the owners only in order to produce a magnificent dialogue of them.

No gentleman of taste can afford to be without these items in his library," might have been a critic's verdict in mid-nineteenth century. Mentmore Towers was for Baron Meyer de Rothschild, whose daughter and heir, Hannah, married the fifth Earl of Rosebery, the future Prime Minister. The first four pages of the catalogue, all decked over, the sales of picture: Works of Art and Porcelain; and Paintings and Drawings. The future sale was no doubt indeed a glorious Dresden cabinet ornately mounted inlaid with mother-of-pearl, abutted to Michael Klimmler's chair, which was withdrawn. The essence of the room, the recesses, it was bought by Baron as a young man in 1835, £1,000. But even without this, there is still enough on the remaining Rothschild examples to drown company of goblins.

The chimneypiece may have come from Rubens's house, but their stoneware box was from Asprey's, and you may be able to secure it, together with a matching desk blotter bearing the monogram of Jules de Rothschild, for the sum of £10,000. Lot 2365 is a brass and wood chandelier. The estimate is only £5 to £10, but the historical romantic may imagine that on one or other of them hung the coat that Lord Rosebery was so often accused of having worn. For £4,000 to £5,000, you may be able to buy two Silver oyster-stands, each of porcelain scallop-shaped on ornate branches. Also a porcelain ride is a Silver pal plate made for Marie Antoinette for the *L'Amazzone* at Ecouen, with finely modelled 'head masks' about the glass simulates wood, about as convincingly as a *Minotaure* imported a milkmaid. The saddle for this piece, formerly a humble plant pot at Mentmore, is £10,000 to £15,000.

The paintings sale, a work begun in 1884, includes a portrait of Benvenuto Cellini by Gainsborough (inspired, without igh!) is now more modestly lodged in a set of six Tyrolean knives, forks and spoons, 24 individual asparagus holders, a shaped oval version dish, an asp-crash a toast rack, a picnic hamper containing pottery sand with boxes, a miniature bed

canopy, a monogrammed cigarette case, a cigarette box engraved "Harry", a toothpick case bearing Lord Dalmatian's monogram, a heart-shaped book-mark engraved with the monogram of Hannah Rothschild. One can buy any of these Rosbury rarities for quite a modest outlay.

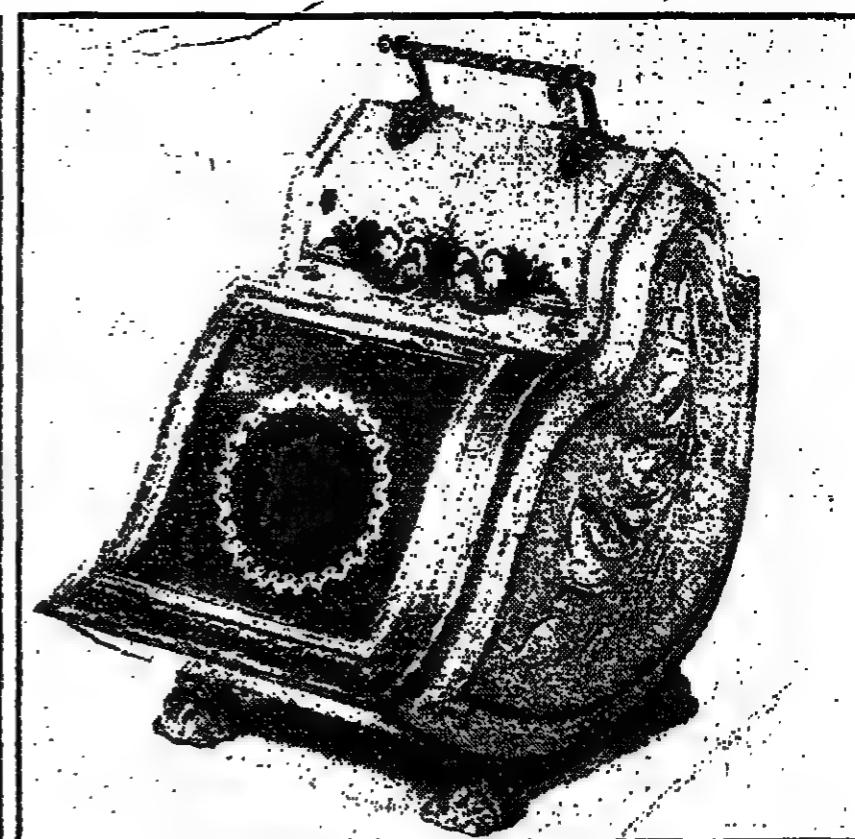
Think how respectful the customs officers will be when you open Lot 368, an R. & G. Garard crocodile skin travelling bag, the interior containing a rectangular sandwich box and other items mostly bearing the initial R below a coronet. If you have about £2,000, you may secure lot 1252, a George III meadow-grove box with engraved plaque. Yes, No plaque, circa 1800. Then you will be able to play at elections all by yourself or train to be a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.

A marrow scoop of 12 George III poultry skewers, may be some day made a Louis XVI ormolu-mounted ebony secretary a chestnut, mounted J. H. Riesener and made for the apartments of Marie Antoinette at Versailles, but these and others of the domestic trinkets will appeal to anyone who knows what Coventry Patmore meant when he began a poem: "I singularly moved to love the lovely that are not behaved..."

Bevis Hillier



A late George III mahogany ballot box with engraved ivory 'Yes' and 'No' plaques, circa 1800



One of a pair of painted metal purdoniums bearing the monogram of Baron Meyer de Rothschild. Mid nineteenth century.

A wine tour as a form of holiday sounds attractive. But, although something may be learned from each cellar and vineyard, a succession of many visits can tire all but the most enthusiastic—and, in tours organized, include both a big muddy meal and a copious dinner, combined with a lot of travelling, many people begin to long for simple fare.

Indeed, just a short tour or a few days devoted to wine from a holiday can be rewarding and instructive. An introduction from a wine merchant or a shipper can usually be arranged if you are a regular buyer of wine. Remember, however, that the vintage in Europe doesn't begin until mid-September in the south and can start as late as October in Champagne, even later in Germany; also, accommodation will be heavily booked at vintage time by the wine trade. It is preferable to go just before the vintage, or in the summer—perhaps the most rewarding type of study trip.

The Champagne region is on

Way, Harlow, Essex) have their scheme of "Vineyard visits", to put customers in touch with vineyards and distilleries whom they represent. A former editor of their Wine Wise magazine, Anthony Boge, has written *Guide to Visiting Vineyards* (Michael Joseph, £4.50), which gives particulars of all the classic wine regions. Lists his directs of popular open vineyards, vineyards, wine-cellars, addresses of wine organizations and recommended books. As it gives telephone numbers, it is especially useful for those who don't plan their itinerary in advance.

In The Traveller in France (French Government Tourist Office, 178 Piccadilly, W1) there is a list of eight organizations offering wine tours. These range from those for campers and caravanners, to more serious eight-day sessions in a self-drive car at Bordeaux or Burgundy, with half board—perhaps the most rewarding

driving twenty minutes out of Turin to Pessione at the superb wine museum of Marchi & Rossi, also, for anyone near Asti, to visit the Bersano establishment at Nizza Monferrato, where there is a big collection of old presses and interesting collections of labels, bottles and wine-making equipment. There are several wine tours arranged in Italy by Inglenook Travel (329 Putney Bridge Road, SW1). Many of the big estates, such as Brolio, in the Chianti Classico region of Tuscany, also receive visitors and at Greve, in the heart of the area, the Enoteca in the delightful arched town has bottles representing every member of the Chianti Classico Consorzio, which are on sale.

In Germany, the wine

affairs, primarily for the trade, but there is a list of the wine festivals in the various regions, plus the seminars now held in many places, to be had from Wines from Germany Information Service (15 Thayer St., W1). Many of these study courses are held over weekends, with numbers being given to English speakers, also including excursions; most famous is the German Wine Academy, held at Kloster Eberbach in the Rheingau, admirably organized according to those who have attended, and now running courses for post-graduate students who wish to come back. This brochure indicates whether the course is for the beginner or advanced student.

In the United Kingdom there

is now much to interest the wine lover on tour. Harvey's Wine Museum (12 Denmark St., Bristol) is a fine and beautifully arranged collection of glasses, labels and wine-making equipment; a visit—which must be arranged in advance—causes nearly three hours, with a com-

mentary and a tasting. In Devon, James Hawker (Mayflower House, Brixton Side, Plymouth) can, if notified beforehand, show visitors their cellars—where the Pilgrim Fathers spent their last night in England—and premises, established in 1620. There are also many English vineyards open to receive visitors, the centre of which organization—from which information may be obtained—is at the Merrydown Wine Co (Horam Manor, Headfield, East Sussex), where the English Vineyard Association acts as a co-operative for members who cannot make their own wine. Parties can tour the winery and see something of the experimental and other vineyards, as well as being able to buy the wines of a number of English vineyards in the shop of the Merrydown Wine Company which also stocks "country" wines, made from various fruits.

Pamela Vandyke Price

Drink

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Sportsview

Making a fine old racket in Wimbledon's centenary year

This summer will see the centenary of the Wimbledon lawn tennis championships, and the All-England Club has planned a number of sideshows to uplift the birthday. On the opening Monday, June 20, half an hour before Bjorn Borg of Sweden, the reigning champion, takes the centre court to set the ball in motion once more, there is to be a parade of singles champions, men and women.

The cavalcade will be led by Mrs Godfree—as Miss Kitty McKane she won in 1924 and 1926—and Jean Borotra, the ageless Bounding Basque. Once more Borotra's black beret will leap to the mind's eye, as will the quicksilver half-volleys of the Frenchman Cochet, the athleticism of Fred Perry, and the square-headed racket of Jack Crawford, who played with his shirt sleeves buttoned politely at the wrist.

All will be presented with gold medallions as mementoes of past glories, with special replicas struck for "Toro Brugnon", the French doubles specialist, and Miss Elizabeth Ryan, of America, holder of 17 doubles titles, whose record Billy Jean King will try to beat this year.

Watching the craftsmen

Then there is the new Wimbledon Museum, to be opened officially on May 19 by the Duke of Kent, president of the All-England Club.

Centred at the side of the centre court overlooking the flowered resileum, the museum has been arranged and designed by Mr Robin Wade and his team of craftsmen. Mr Wade was responsible for the classic Chinese Exhibition at the Royal Academy in 1973 and the 1776 Exhibition at Greenwich.

There will be an old workshop where a craftsman is seen making a racket by hand; a reconstruction of the original changing room at Worple

Geoffrey Green

Local elections

Some small errors arose in Peter Pulzer's articles last Saturday and Monday. In the table relating to the GLC (last Saturday) the swing in Greenwich since the last GLC election should have read 16.8 per cent, not 8.2 per cent. In Woolwich East the swing since the last GLC election was 22.4 per cent, not 25.1 per cent. In Bradford (last Monday) the swing to the Conservatives since the last general election should read 18.8 per cent, not 12.3 per cent, and the National Front vote in the old city area was 5.3 per cent, not 11.4 per cent.

Pissarro at Penge, or did he get his lines crossed?

Take a look at this famous painting by the French Impressionist, Camille Pissarro. To generations it has been known as *Penge Station* and to my otherwise would not doubt evoke the fires of anger in those railway buffs who so virulently let off steam at Michael Freedland's assertion on this page last Saturday "that the Royal Scot is an engine that never really was".

But whatever the reference books may say, Penge, or to be more precise Penge West (if one is to believe Mr Norman Harvey who said so in the *Beckenham Journal* in 1959), definitely is not. In a letter to the *Railway Magazine* in March, Mr Philip Troutman, curator of the Courtauld Institute Galleries at the University of London, reported that one or two visitors disagreed with the accepted identification, but could not provide an alternative.

Illustrated a date of 1871 appears to agree."

Does anyone wish to take issue with that? Meanwhile the locomotive remains unidentified.

Finally, we can partially exonerate Michael Freedland. Sir Peter Masfield has already set him right over the Royal Scot class of locomotives which were not in traffic when the Royal Scot express was first timetabled between London and Glasgow, the jubilee we have been celebrating this week. Indeed, says British Rail, the class were named after regiments, not the train. For the record the honour of hauling the first northbound express was entrusted to locomotive 5299 *Vesuvius* and the unnamed 5334. On the southbound train the engines were 5384 and 5938.

What a pity Pissarro was not alive to paint them.

Ion Trewin

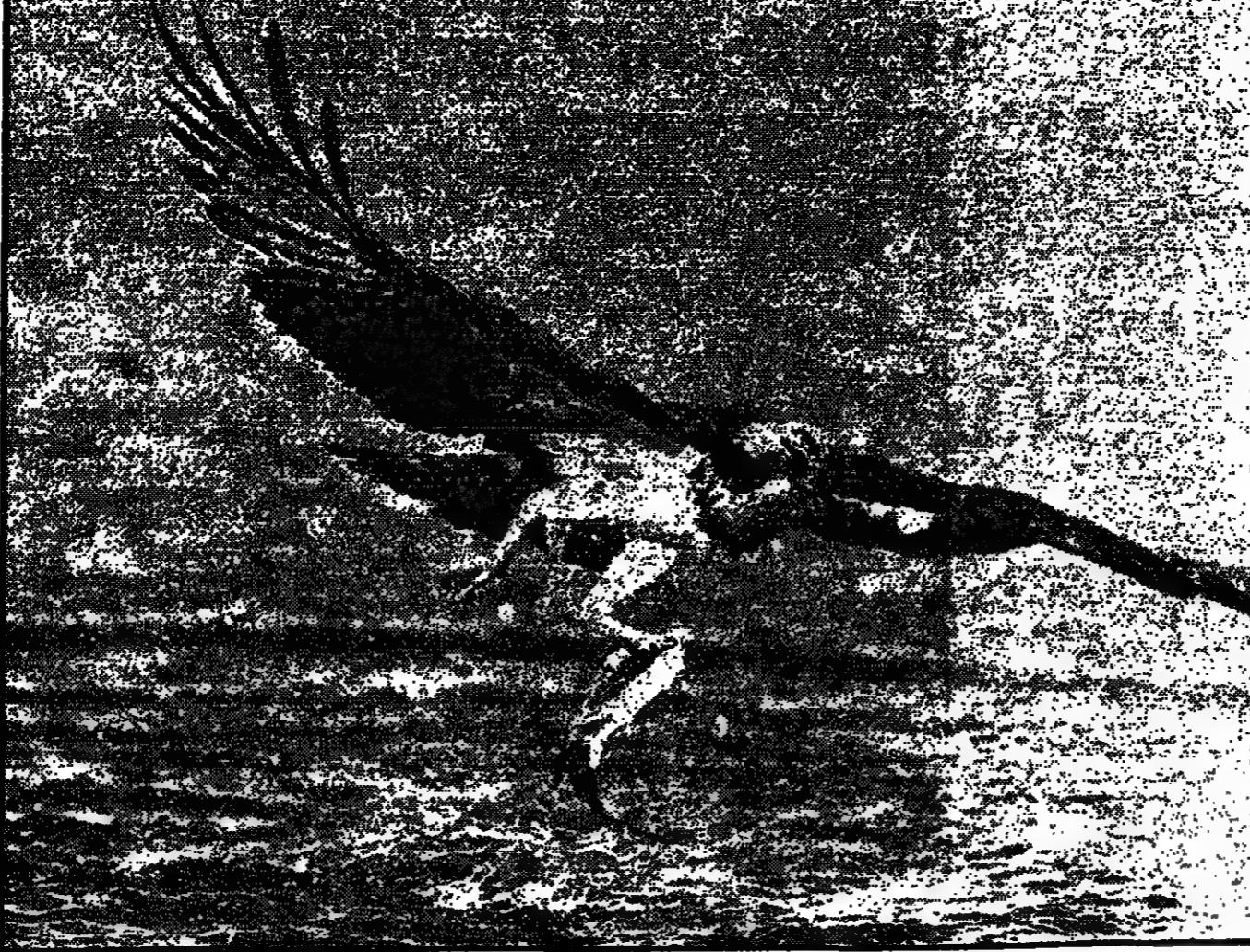
A detail from Pissarro's painting, *Penge Station*.

Interfaith relations and the problems of the Holy City

Even in the 1970s it is impossible to divorce Jerusalem of a special religious sense. Popularly this may be no more than a vague notion that that is the place "where it all began", though it is pretty common knowledge that the Holy City is particularly associated with Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

It is necessary to be more specific if we are to understand the contemporary interfaith situation in that part of the world. For Judaism, Jerusalem, ever since King David made it his capital circa 1,000 BC, has been both the symbol and the centre of its special tie-up with the Holy Land. For Christianity it is sacred because of the acts and words of Jesus, climaxed in the crucifixion and resurrection. For Islam, although Jerusalem stands only third in relation to Medina and Mecca, yet even this "third direction in prayer" gives it a permanent place in Muslim interest. Thus the city is holy in different ways to all three religions.

Historically this has proved to be more than an accepted religious ideal. It has expressed itself in the concrete of holy places, distinctive religious communities with geographical city quarters. For the sheer fact of living Jerusalem has been and



An asprey takes its prey: Photograph by Stixen Jonsson.

Why the birds' egg snatchers could be in for a shock

Now is the time when chick

thieves and nest raiders, the pirates of ornithology, go to work. Four eggs have been taken by some agile felon from an asprey's nest and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds is mounting the biggest security campaign yet to guard the eyries of those birds of prey which in Scotland have become preyed-upon birds.

There are 15 pairs of aspreys in the Highlands and the Scottish population has survived from within a wingtip of extinction. The golden eagle, too, is growing in numbers after falling foul of egg collectors, gamekeepers with old-fashioned ideas and pesticides that once in the food chain, rendered eggs infertile.

The greatest effort in Scotland this year will be put into the protection of the peregrine falcon. This majestic but vulnerable species is under attack for a number of reasons. Britain now has about 500 pairs of peregrines, probably the largest concentration in Europe. Most of them are in Scotland. In other countries where the peregrine is a status bird, sought by falconers because of its speed and fine

flight—or by grosser souls because it can even look hand-some in a glass case, stuffed, the species has suffered severely.

In Scandinavia where once there were more than 2,500 pairs the decline has been catastrophic. Norway has only 10, Sweden eight, Finland 30 and Denmark none. In West Germany where the peregrine is most prized, conversationalists say there are fewer than 25 pairs.

Pesticides have done the most damage. The peregrine is regarded as a sensitive barometer to the state of the environment. "It is a kind of miner's canary to pollution. If a stretch of moorland can support healthy peregrines that is the best compliment a landowner could have because it means his land is in excellent condition. The grouse of Scotland have allowed the peregrine population to thrive", said Mr Douglas Weir, whose study of the peregrine is supported by the World Wildlife Fund.

During the next few weeks peregrine nests will inevitably be the target for illegal raiders. Some will be after the

eggs either to incubate or to collect, others will go for the young chicks which can be reared for sale to dealers on the continent. The money involved in these transactions has probably been exaggerated.

"The man who raids a nest does not see anything like £1,000 or more which is supposed to be paid by wealthy falconers for a good bird, but even so it is a lot of money to have lying on an unprotected ledge," he added.

About £300 is the maximum paid in Britain for a peregrine but after a \$500,000 research programme, Cornell University has succeeded in breeding the falcons in captivity and hopes to re-establish them in the wild.

Ironically the success of artificially breeding birds presents a legal snag that helps the thieves. It is difficult to prove a particular bird has been taken illegally if the owner swears it has been bred in captivity. "That has been the position up to now but this season could see a change. We have something up our sleeve which I hope will give the nest raiders quite a shock", one warden said.

Ronald Faux

George Hutchinson

Time could be on Labour's side, but it is too late

We now have the Campaign Guide, an invaluable compendium of 788 pages compiled by the Conservative Research Department—but no campaign. When can we expect one? What is the outlook?

We are entitled to assume, without extravagance, that the Conservatives would secure a massive victory in an early general election. Granted, though he is by all the agreeable, not to say heady, aspects of his exercise in "summitry" and we need not begrudge him his personal satisfaction), Mr Callaghan's London conference cannot be expected to reverse the national judgment of his administration, so tellingly expressed in the recent poll, or even to modify it to any great degree.

It is conceivable, however, that a measure of his success towards immigration might be needed for re-election. Thatcher is no advocate of an excessively "indulgent" open door policy so dear to the Liberals. In this she is in line with moderate sections of the National Front, now profiting more greatly at the expense of the established democratic party Labour.

Over large immigrant communities, particularly in neighbourhoods produced the suburbs in which the National Front now profits more greatly at the expense of the established democratic party Labour.

Conservative, Labour and Liberal alike. This and alone explains the way in which the Front has made recent elections. We would be wrong to condemn every voter. Not all of them can be understood. The evils, indeed, in this movement, with its mean policies of company participation. Some are less misguided rather than wicked.

The National Front will have to be subdued if we are to retain our reputation as humane and liberal supporters. But this is only one of many challenges lying ahead of Ms Thatcher—for it is she, rather than Mr Callaghan, who ultimately have to face them.

Labour, with or without

Liberals, in a condition to govern successfully during the intervening period, only because it has lost its confidence and respect. Mr Callaghan is presiding over a dying administration. The role is both unseemly and ineffectual (although the fault is more Sir Harold Wilson's than his own).

Thus an immense responsibility attaches to Ms Thatcher as she prepares for office. Besides her own party, thousands upon thousands of former Labour and Liberal supporters have declared their trust in her and will expect her to live up to it.

I wonder how many people realize that we may lose our familiar and distinctive British Passport before long, this well-made, dignified document commanding so much respect throughout the world. We are in imminent danger of having them replaced—superficially, no doubt, in plastic, with the words "European Community" embossed on the cover, albeit accompanied by the existing Royal Arms.

The colour, I gather, may be deep blue—and unless Parliament asserts itself we shall have no choice but to accept this wretched and demeaning innovation. Technically, it can be introduced by Royal Proclamation, without debate in the House of Commons.

Fortunately, the nation-wide sentiment, as I gather, is that a champion in Mr Neil Martin, the Conservative MP for Barnsley, that most courageous of conscientious objectors, is determined to bring up the debate. Of his own accord, he has this to say: "It will not be doubted that they are emotional and old fashioned, would proudly accept both arguments, but there is nothing wrong in either of them." Hear, hear, and cheer for Neil Martin!

To his credit, Mr Frank Judd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, has acknowledged that the proposed (though it is more than I fear) ought to be debated. It's up to the old Michael Foot, Leader of the House, to arrange a debate. He will be guilty of serious failure if he neglects to do so.

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towards "restricted" quarters which they reveal—will damage the harmonious relations between communities and religions in Jerusalem, harm Jerusalem's image as a unified city where people can live together and undermine our many achievements in this field in the ten years since the city was unified.

In this connection mention must be made of the figure caused by a member of the Jerusalem Rainbow Group co-signing a corporate letter from St George's, Jerusalem, Anglican Cathedral, published in *The Times* of January 7, 1977. The letter, which was not, on account of the criticism it had aroused, signed and appealed against the particular evictions as indeed the Secretary of the Jerusalem Rainbow Group and the Israel Interfaith Committee had sponsored and signed the appeal quoted above. What was deeply resented is not only that the facts were not accurately stated but rather slanted in a partisan direction that only thinly veiled a deep anti-Israel animosity.

Interfaith relations is not a game. It is a life engagement in dialogue and action that involves seriousness of purpose, wide perception and, above all, empathy for all involved. Peter Schneider

links the "Heavenly Jerusalem" to the earthly, real and surprising that the milestones of the Interfaith movement can to a great extent be seen as the way in which the religious coped with actual events and crises in the Holy Land. As already indicated, for the Church the emergence of the state of Israel was (and to some measure remains) theoretically traumatic. The problem for Islam is different and is mainly concerned with the necessity for a politico-religious readjustment brought about by its minority status in Israel. From the outset the new state set up two departments for Muslim and Christian concerns in its Ministry of Religious Affairs. Such legal provision, good and essential as it is, could hardly be expected to create an interfaith dialogue and forge deep and genuine interfaith relations. That is by its very nature a voluntary activity though admittedly eased by a favourable legal structure.

The first voluntary organization in the field was the Israel Interfaith Committee founded in 1950. Its modest aim at first was to facilitate a continuation of social contact which had already existed before the state but had been severely interrupted by strife, blockade

and boundary. The remarkable growth of this body is epitomized by the fact that it was able in 1970 to co-sponsor an international academic colloquium, bringing together Christian and Jewish scholars

but the supporters and antagonists on the Christian side. Further it displayed two specific characteristics that have increasingly become a hallmark of the Interfaith movement in Israel. First is the freedom to criticize specific Israeli policies and action with an equally free acceptance of responsibility to urge for the right of Israel to exist. Second, in the recognition that interfaith relations are to have an effective intercommunal life, then the full identity of the various interfaith partners needs to be understood and respected.

It is hardly short of miraculous that this tender plant of the interfaith dialogue movement was not wrecked by the 1967 crisis and war. In the meantime on the Christian side there developed an organization for the essential Christian theological stocktaking necessary for the growth of the necessary interfaith confidence. Without this prime requisite trust it was impossible for such a voluntary association with the ambitious aim of fostering mutual understanding, genuine communal relationships and dialogue to make any headway. The measure in which the Rainbow Group was beginning to break through the theological impasse is evident in an Epilogue of Reflections by its chairman, good and essential as it is, could hardly be expected to create an interfaith dialogue and forge deep and genuine interfaith relations. That is by its very nature a voluntary activity though admittedly eased by a favourable legal structure.

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NEW OPTIMISM IN ULSTER

Eleven days Mr Ian Paisley and his political and parliamentary associates have been hating and coercing the people of Ulster to bring the economic life of the province to a standstill. The people of Ulster have abhorred the extortions and availed the coercion, even though these included physical menace, personal threats, and murder. They have stood their guard in spite of the fact that most of them agree with the ostensible aims of the strike, rapidly with the aim of securing a reconstituted Stormont Parliament and government and fervently with the aim of enforcing a more active security policy. It is the same proposed to them that they have rejected. They have had the sense to reject the notion that they could improve their condition by inflicting serious damage on their shaky economy, to achieve the firmer establishment of "civil" order by resorting to anarchy. They have rational concern for their livelihoods and they are sick to death of commotion, destruction and lawlessness. They have stood against the powerful bait incitement of Mr Paisley and the only two credible threats of anonymous bullies. They serve the good opinion of their lowly citizens in the United Kingdom.

So does the administration at Stormont Castle. With the lessons of the 1974 strike in mind, its preparations were thorough, its responses to the "takers" tactics were well timed, and its visible assertion of constitutional authority from

the outset was something round which the people could rally. The Royal Ulster Constabulary, which bore the brunt of the action, has signally enhanced its reputation as an impartial and effective police force, and that is not the least of the benefits to be counted in the successful dismissal of this challenge.

The episode has caused a faint note of optimism to be detectable again in Ulster. The once successful and long-pondered threat of extra-constitutional "loyalism" has been outpaced by the community and the government. The forces of moderation in the province are strengthened. The possibility of constructive political movement is reopened. True, established party leaders in a barrage of exchanges in front of next week's local elections appear to want to slam it shut again. And it would be silly to suppose that entrenched positions on such matters as "power sharing" are suddenly to become fluid. But things will not be quite the same in Northern Ireland after the raggedy collapsing strike as before it. This will be reflected on the level of politics. What form the development takes may not become apparent for some time. But at least it would now be appropriate to put on the agenda the reconstruction of the RUC, the better acceptability of the Northern Ireland Administration, and the undoubted yearning of by far the greater part of the Roman Catholic population in the North to have the Provisional IRA taken off their backs.

In particular there should be reassessment of arguments that such and such a measure would be counterproductive because of political repercussions in the Roman Catholic communities in the North or in the Irish Republic. They should be reassessed in the light of changes in the Republic's own security policy and in sentiment there, and in the light of the improved standing of the RUC, the better acceptance of the Northern Ireland Administration, and the undoubted yearning of by far the greater part of the Roman Catholic population in the North to have the Provisional IRA taken off their backs.

CRICKET UNDER CHALLENGE

There is nothing to be deplored any professional sportsman seeking to improve the financial benefits he obtains from his skills. His playing days are usually relatively short, and at the end of them, usually during his fifties, he often has to seek a new career at a particularly awkward stage of his life. Sportsmen too, have children, mortgages and other responsibilities, and to say that they should, for a sake of the game, forego financial advantages offered to them is as absurd as suggesting at someone who loves being in business should be satisfied with low profits.

Cricketers have fared worse than most other professional sportsmen. With very few exceptions, their earnings, compared with those of even the second division of tennis players, golfers, footballers are extremely low. Only a few have the opportunity of playing cricket year-round, and for many, a county player, the winter brings a renewed search for a job, or the dole. It is therefore natural that they should be looking out for opportunities to increase their incomes from the game, and normally, any scheme which could enable them to do that would be welcomed as increased ownership over the past few years has been. The proposal of Mr Packer's cricket circus, however, cannot be accepted in any enthusiasm. Arrangements for obtaining the services

of cricketers were carried out in a clandestine manner with Tony Greig playing a large part as recruiting agent. For that reason alone, while acknowledging the considerable contribution he has made to English cricket, it was right that the decision was taken yesterday no longer to consider him for the captaincy of England. What is more disturbing about the circus is that its plan cut directly across two forthcoming Test series. The consequences to cricket of such a confrontation cannot be anticipated without considerable concern.

The chances of the circus retaining its hold over the cricket-watching public for any length of time, after the novelty of it has worn off, is problematical. There must be a limit to the delight of watching the same two or three teams playing each other over and over, especially in the absence of the emotional patriotic allegiances which for many play a large part in the enjoyment of the game. Experience so far has shown that matches involving teams not based on geographical or national identity, however many stars they contain, do not provide a high degree of satisfaction, and drama.

The danger of the circus for England is that, in the short run, it will disrupt the pattern of Test cricket, reducing it for a while at least to second-rank status, and that this diminution of the

AKISTAN'S UNHAPPY DIVISIONS

Bhutto has told the National Assembly that Pakistan can put end to the "nightmare" of the past two months only by holding a referendum; the spin must decide either for or against Mr Bhutto's continued leadership of the country. This is the dialogue with the position of Pakistan's National Alliance will not go on and the position in turn are saying that they will have nothing to do with the referendum. There is no kind of compromise in sight. The country's political rivals will remain at cross purposes.

If course there is a shrewd tactical calculation behind Mr Bhutto's seemingly despairing inaction. There was never any incentive that he would accept opposition's stubbornly unchanged demand for his resignation, for the dissolution of the assembly and for fresh elections under a new electoral commission. In the early stages their campaign popular feelings in the cities was supporting opposition protest at the local elections—though some position seats may have been won by the same means. The acts of demonstrators when crowds were fired on sent Bhutto's stock down further. In the past three weeks the momentum behind the opposi-

tion campaign has ebbed while Mr Bhutto's power was enhanced when his chosen army leaders stood firm. Borrowing Mao Tse-tung's strategy of struggling and talking, arresting the opposition leaders and bargaining with them—Mr Bhutto was able to play for time and let the opposition expose their own weaknesses.

Most obviously this was in their lack of an alternative national leader—outside the considerable but strictly Islamic reputation of some. The religious and political mixture of the opposition alliance both progressive and reactionary, never looked like hardening into an agreed policy with a popular appeal. The only issue that did unite them was the demand for Mr Bhutto to leave the field. Rather than risk any further elections, whether provincial or national, Mr Bhutto has preferred to accept the personal challenge. He knows that if the bulk of the urban vote goes against him he can still rely on a pleasant rural vote that can be safely garnered in his interest.

Mr Bhutto's emotional statement yesterday hinted at some change in the constitution if a referendum confirmed him in office. From the sudden imposition of a much stricter press censorship it may be that a

plutonium economy

in Mr G. N. Watson

Plutonium is discussed by Professor Ziman (The Times, April 21) and by many others, as if it is only one type. The element plutonium, like uranium, consists of a mixture of isotopes, some of which are useful as fuel in reactors, others of which do not generate energy and tend to quench the chain process. The water-cooled reactors developed in the USA (and Canada) necessarily produce plutonium with a large proportion of quenching isotopes so that the plutonium cannot be communally used. The added value of extracting plutonium is low and, economically, it is only marginally

advantageous, if not disadvantageous, to invest in the processing technology required. There is no possibility of separating plutonium isotopes on a commercial scale as there is for uranium.

The gas-cooled reactors developed in this country, on the other hand, produce plutonium with a high proportion of the fissile isotope. The plutonium bred in the fast reactor will also be highly valuable as a fuel and can be repeatedly re-cycled indefinitely. President Carter may be well advised to stop re-processing American plutonium, but it does not follow that our Government is well advised to stop planning to use British plutonium.

One ton of fissile plutonium is equivalent in energy to over one million tons of coal, or oil, and we have time to plan the use of plutonium with the greatest possible care. Professor Ziman refers to the threat to civil liberties; there is also the threat to our countryside and to the North Sea if the coal and oil is irresponsibly exploited. Yours faithfully,
G. N. WATSON,
Professor of Nuclear Technology,
Department of Chemical Engineering
and Chemical Technology,
Imperial College of Science and
Technology,
Prince Consort Road, SW7.

April 27.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The next British Ambassador in Washington

From Lord Caccia

Sir, There can be no objection in principle to the belief expressed by some of your correspondents that the man or woman that has the best qualifications for the job should get it. That is other things being equal.

In this case other things are not equal.

The reason is the simple one, that it is not possible to avoid the appearance, if not the reality, of nepotism. Some parliamentarians may console themselves that there have been other cases in the recent past of high posts being given to relatives or close personal friends of leading politicians. But it would be a tragic mistake if they were to think that this will be a balm to all. Indeed, the risk is that it will convince a growing number that the way our affairs are run is just as venal and insensitive as they feared.

To go to more transient considerations.

Mr Jay amongst many other virtues is a plain spoken and has made no bones of the fact that he is, and has always been, a convinced Socialist.

As far as the present Government wants to fall, the Conservative Prime Minister would be put in an embarrassing position to say the least of it; as would Mr Jay himself.

Being the man he is, I should expect him not only to offer his resignation in such circumstances but to insist on it. Far too much government business of every kind goes through Washington to make it at all effective for the Ambassador there to be in fundamental political disagreement with the policies of Her Majesty's Government. It has been tried and does not work, whatever the personal sympathies may be between the Foreign Secretary and Ambassador.

So, on present showing, Mr Jay's appointment might all too likely set the British record for brevity.

As to the manner of the change, there can be nothing but contempt for the whispers that have been circulated about the way in which Sir Peter Ramsbotham held our name and interests high against all of it; as would Mr Jay himself. Being the man he is, I should expect him not only to offer his resignation but to insist on it. Far too much government business of every kind goes through Washington to make it at all effective for the Ambassador there to be in fundamental political disagreement with the policies of Her Majesty's Government. It has been tried and does not work, whatever the personal sympathies may be between the Foreign Secretary and Ambassador.

Yours faithfully,

MARIE-LOUISE de ZULUETA,

1 Vicarage Gardens, W8.

May 12.

From Lady de Zulueta

Sir, I am sure that Sir Peter Ramsbotham's many friends and admirers, who know of the excellent job that he has done for this country in Washington, will have been extremely annoyed at the reports of his alleged: "old-fashioned and extravagant approach to diplomacy" reported in today's media. All who know him and have witnessed him at first hand "on the job"—be it in Paris, Tehran or Washington—I feel sure will agree that this criticism is both untrue and unfair.

Yours faithfully,

MARIE-LOUISE de ZULUETA,

1 Vicarage Gardens, W8.

May 12.

From Mr S. C. Leslie

Sir, The startling nature of the new Washington appointment seems to have unscrupled some judgments. But the Foreign Secretary has testified that this was his own unprompted decision, based on his assessment of the personal qualities of a man very well known to him for a number of years. The Prime Minister, one of the shrewdest of political judges, must have known just what appearance his acquaintance would wear, and what the first reaction would be. The critics may live to regret their words, even to eat them.

Meantime one is tempted to address them in the words Cromwell well used to another set of disidents of entrenched opinions: "I beseech you, in the bowels of Christ, think it possible you may be mistaken."

Yours faithfully,

S. C. LESLIE,

54 View Road, N6.

May 12.

From Professor Joel Bursteinfield

Sir, If Mr D. M. Graham (Letters, May 13) is looking for historical precedents for the appointment to a public office by Mr Callaghan of a close member of his family, I will gladly take him a good deal further back than Sir Robert Peel.

He might consider the conditions prevailing at the time of Walpole or the Pelhams in the eighteenth century or, better still, the methods adopted in the early seventeenth century by the Duke of Buckingham who brought his sisters and his cousins and his aunts to positions of influence. Earlier still William Cecil showed himself a master of patronage and gained for Elizabethan England the sobriquet *Regnum Cetulium*—Cecil's realm.

I have been a supporter of the Labour Party since I was a schoolboy and I am not particularly interested in the precedents set by Sir Robert Peel. But I greatly admire C. R. Ayles whose comments on the going-on of the last few years would, I am sure, have been trenchant and memorable. He might, perhaps, have reminded us that the Labour Party and the Labour Government are not the private property of a single individual.

Having made such a blunder there remains (it has been suggested) an honourable thing for Mr Callaghan to do. If he does it, I would certainly recommend him for the post of Ambassador in Washington. He appears to enjoy greater confidence and respect with President Carter than with some members of his party. As for his Foreign Secretary, his constituents will no doubt take the opportunity at the next election of making clear to him what they think of his antics.

Yours, etc,

JOEL HURSTFIELD,

7 Glenfield Road,

Hampstead, NW3.

May 13.

From the Reverend R. Allington Smith

Sir, There is sycophany. Again there is nepotism and also inverted nepotism, which would bar persons otherwise well qualified for office on account of family connections. I am glad the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary have not succumbed to it.

Yours faithfully,

RICHARD ALLINGTON SMITH,

The Vicarage,

80 Broadway Avenue,

Rainham,

Kent.

May 13.

From Lord Trevelyan

Sir, I had not been lost through yesterday in the Committee room of the House of Lords. I should have been glad to join my

University legacies

From Professor Malcolm Woodbine and Mr Donald Harrison

Sir, Concern for the efficiency of our education system and severe financial constraints are two matters of great moment in our national life today. A critical balance has to be struck between desirable investment in the future intellectual endowment of our people and the necessary limitation of expenditure. This tension has been felt in all sectors of education and not least in our universities.

We wonder, Sir, if some of your readers who give serious thought to the bequests made in their wills may not realize that universities are empowered by their Charters to receive legacies, bequests, or gifts for purposes of education or research.

Very often in published reports of wills we read of generous bequests to other (and quite deserving) charitable bodies, indicating the wish of the testators that good use should be made in this world of funds which cannot be transferred to the next. Without destroying such bequests, we submit that the advancement and transmission of learning, teaching and research at the highest levels is also a worthy (and needy) destination for large or small amounts.

Yours faithfully,

J. G. ROBINSON,

53 Woodcress Road,

Purley,

Surrey.

May 9.

Jubilee post

From Mr J. G. Robinson

Sir, The Price Commission have just drawn attention to overcharging in the telephone service.

I would like to draw your attention to overcharging relating to the Queen's Silver Jubilee, which can only be described as scandalous.

The Post Office are providing souvenirs covers to be used during the Jubilee Tour.

The Post Office are charging 80p for each envelope, the cost being made up as follows:

The stamp 42½ p

The standard envelope cost 8 p

Handling charge 29½ p

The envelopes cannot be bought separately from the stamps, and as I suspect most of these will be used by children during the Queen's visit.

Just how the Post Office justify a handling charge of over 36 per cent?

Yours faithfully,

J. G. ROBINSON.

53 Woodcress Road,

Purley,

Surrey.

May 9.

Who owns the farmland?

From Mr J. G. Wordsworth

Sir, Your recent correspondents show understandable misgivings on the future ownership of our farmland. It is a matter of national importance which concerns us all.

Undoubtedly, land ownership, like every other facet of the economy, is experiencing difficulties and change. This we must accept and avoid our national tendency of looking backwards and yearning for the "good old days".

Yours faithfully,

JACK LINDSAY,

Castle Hedingham,

Essex.

May 12.

SOCIAL NEWS

The Duchess of Marlborough gave birth to a daughter in Oxford on May 12.

A memorial service for Mr R. J. Carter will be held in St. Martin-in-the-Bow Church at noon on May 24.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Dr Alwyn Surplice will be held in Winchester Cathedral on Saturday, June 25, at 12.15 pm.

The Cambridge University Boat Club's 150th anniversary dinner will be held on July 23 at 7.30 pm for 8 pm. Applications (Blues, Trial Caps, Goldie Colours etc) for tickets £10 each, should be made as soon as possible to Dr E. V. Bevan, 3 Trinity Street, Cambridge.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. J. Abbott and Miss A. R. Brown

The engagement is announced between Arthur John Abbott, Alleyn's School, Streatham, elder son of the late Rev A. F. Abbott of St Mary, Norfolk, and Anne Ross, younger daughter of the Rev Canon and Mrs S. Brown, of Culver Rectory, Banbury.

Mr N. Holt and Miss S. A. Kellieker

The engagement is announced between Nigel, youngest son of Mr and Mrs N. D. Holt, of Singapore, and Sally Anne, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs D. Kellieker, of Shirley, Surrey.

Service dinners

The Prince of Wales' Own Regiment of Yorkshire

The regimental dinner of The Prince of Wales' Own Regiment of Yorkshire was held last night at the Army and Navy Club, Brigadier W. S. G. Arnoux, Colonel of the regiment, presided.

The Green Howards

The Green Howards (Alexander-Princess of Wales' Own York-shire Regiment) last night entertained Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templer at dinner at Regimental Headquarters, Richmond, North Yorkshire. The Colonel of the regiment, Brigadier J. B. Oldfield, presided.

London Rifle Brigade Rangers

The annual dinner of officers of the London Rifle Brigade Rangers was held on Thursday, May 12, at the Army and Navy Club. Colonel Sir James Schuster presided. The guests were Lieutenant-General P. Hudson, Colonel of the Earl of Arundel and Surrey Royal Engineers; Lieutenant-Colonel A. E. Berry.

Birthdays today

Mr Eric W. Cheeble, 69; Mr G. R. Chervyad, 61; Canon S. L. Greenhalge, 72; the Right Rev R. H. Moberly, 59; Mr Eric Morecombe, 59.

Tomorrow: Professor Sir James Badley, 59; Sir Ralph Bateman, 67; Sir William Batty, 64; Lord Darling, 58; Mr E. R. (Ted) Dexter, 42; Mr J. F. Gore, 92; Lord McDonald, 61; Sir William MacTaggart, 74; Sir Frederick Mason, 64.

Memorial service

Mr A. Wolcough

A memorial service for Alexander Wolcough was held on May 3 at the Russian Orthodox Church in Exile, Emperor's Gate. Father John officiated and Mr Edgar Anagni gave an address.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include Mr Max Hedditch, aged 39, Deputy Director of the Museum of London, to be director in succession to Mr T. A. Huane, who retires on July 1.

Threat of deafness from an aerosol antibiotic

By John Roper

Health Services Correspondent

The Committee on Safety of Medicines yesterday warned doctors, dentists and pharmacists that the use of aerosols containing the antibiotic neomycin might lead to deafness.

The association of deafness with neomycin administered internally has been established.

Its application on skin in cases of burns, cuts or abrasions could lead to absorption into the blood stream.

Few cases of deafness after external application of the anti-

The pentecostal theology of a Scottish preacher

On May 11, 1827, the new Scott Church in London was opened in Regent Square, a few hundred yards away from the present *The Times* offices in the Gray's Inn road. It was an impressive Regency Gothic building designed by Sir William Tite, the architect of the Royal Exchange. Excited crowds had waited outside for long hours and when the doors were opened there was a wild rush for places. This was not only because of the greater religious interest of those days but also because of the reputation of the young minister, Edward Irving, whose fame as the most striking preacher in London had necessitated the church's move from its old building in Harton Garden to this larger site.

Irving is one of the most interesting and bewildering figures of his period. Brought up in the Scottish border country near his close friend and early colleague, Thomas Carlyle, he began his ministry as assistant to the great Dr Chalmers. When he came to London, his sermons of

resonant eloquence, and quite inordinate length, quickly attracted a wide public, including many people in the world of letters. Coleridge and Lamb were among his friends and Dr Quincey and Hazlitt wrote appreciatively of him.

No one could have been less like the popular preachers of later Victorian London than Irving. His sermons were closely packed theological statements which offered no short cuts to his auditors. As time went on, his conviction concerning the full humanity of Christ and the imminence of his personal return led him to the belief that a living church should express the pentecostal gifts described in the New Testament. Speaking with tongues became a feature of his services, to the indignation of many of his Scotch elders. He was tried by the presbytery, partly for heretical teaching but chiefly on disciplinary grounds. This was not without hurt. Irving seemed to have been held in esteem and even affection throughout and was as consistent in his views as they

were that he should obey the rules. Finally he was deposed, as Dr Gordon Strachan has shown in his recent book on *The Pentecostal Theology of Edward Irving* (Barton, Longman and Tindall, £2.75), his pentecostal teaching was based on profound biblical theology. His emphasis on the humanity of Christ and its relation to the gifts of the Spirit has points of affinity with more recent Catholic teaching on the mystical Body and may help explain why pentecostalism emerges on Catholic soil. This possibility will be explored during the symposium on Irving at Regent Square on the evening of May 19.

The departure of Irving was a great blow to the new church but it survived and went on to become the central church of the Presbyterian church of England and the home of its assembly. With the twentieth century, it began to suffer from the outward movement of population, but it was still a relatively strong community up to the Second World War. Lord Reith told how he was prompted by a

moving sermon at an evening service in 1922 to send off his application to become the first manager of the British Broadcasting Company.

The church built for Irving's ministry was demolished after the rocker attack in 1944 which also destroyed the Presbyterian offices next door and killed many people, including several church leaders. A smaller church to serve the changing neighbourhood students and tourists, was opened in 1966. All that is left of Irving on the site are a vivid portrait and the silver plate he presented to the church with the engraved inscription that it should be melted down to help the poor if the need arose. It is hard to see how his interplay of vision can be captured in these days of rapid conviction, but the tradition is maintained at Regent Square

of trying to grapple logically with the central realities of biblical faith.

Daniel Jenkins
Minister of Regent Square United Reformed Church

OBITUARY

JULIUSZ SAKOWSKI

Polish diplomat and publisher

Juliusz Sakowski, a diplomat and a member of the Polish Government in Exile, turned later into a successful publisher and writer, died in London on May 11 at the age of 73.

Born in Warsaw on May 25, 1904, he graduated in 1926 from the Law Faculty of the University of Warsaw, and the following year joined the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After serving in the consular and political departments he was appointed in June, 1925, consul in Marseilles. Three years later he was sent to Valencia as a representative of Poland with the Spanish Republican Government.

During the Second World War he was deputy minister of information with the Polish Government in Exile. After the

war, having been a fugitive, he became managing editor of *Domowe i Obce Listy* (Old and New), *Agit* (Aces and Dames) and *Odyssey* (Desserts and Jokes)—all written in elegant prose by a man of vast culture.

In spite of all his responsibilities Sakowski found time to write himself. Between 1935 and 1977 he published in three volumes of essays *Domowe i Obce Listy* (Old and New), *Agit* (Aces and Dames) and *Odyssey* (Desserts and Jokes).

He was educated at St. Omer, where, while he remained for his academic and athletic interests, he was a member of the Asiatic Petroleum Company, subsequently moving to J. Wicks and Company, the Parker Pen Company and then to Peperdine Ltd, where, as managing director at the age of 24, he was one of the youngest company heads in the country.

At the outbreak of war he joined the Royal Artillery, becoming a major and being awarded the MBE. In 1946 he moved to Brazil as president of the leading department store Mapfre. In this his third career he made as great a success as he was later to make in advertising. He became an advertising agent in 1952 when he ran a small agency, Masius, D'Arcy-MacManus, and a well-known figure in the world of advertising, died on May 13 at the age of 65. He was first and last a salesman though his many talents took him into a very wide range of activities.

He was educated at St. Omer, where he is remembered for his academic and athletic interests. In 1929 he joined the Asiatic Petroleum Company, subsequently moving to J. Wicks and Company, the Parker Pen Company and then to Peperdine Ltd, where, as managing director at the age of 24, he was one of the youngest company heads in the country.

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leaves a widow, a son and two daughters.

MRS HELENA ROBERTS

Dr A. K. B. Evans writes:-

The death of Mrs Helena Roberts, QBE, Mayor of Stepney 1935-36, on April 28 aged 82 breaks a link with the council in 1949 her name was recognized by her appointment as OBE.

On moving to Leicester she became a second place in a local career and served on the Civic Council from 1951 to 1954 when she retired, undeclared aged 75. Before that she had been an active chairman of the women's auxiliary in the town schools in New Park.

Duchy, by origin, born in Vanuatu in 1895, Mrs Roberts settled in London young enough to acquire a native's command of English. She was awarded one of the first London Junior County Scholarships, which she held at George Green's grammar school, Poplar. Her political career began during the First World War, when she became secretary of the Limehouse Labour Party; and six years later, in 1925, she represented Mile End on Stepney Borough Council, a seat she held for some 25 years. In that time she served on most committees, with public health her outstanding interest. Her year as Mayor of Stepney, 1935-36, was distinguished by her strenuous efforts, despite threats to her

person to protect the Jewish community at time of anti-Semitic Blackshirt activity in East London. When she retired from the council in 1949 her name was recognized by her appointment as OBE.

On moving to Leicester she became a second place in a local career and served on the Civic Council from 1951 to 1954 when she retired, undeclared aged 75. Before that she had been an active chairman of the women's auxiliary in the town schools in New Park.

Interest in the welfare of staff and pupils, she also continuing her long-standing chairmanship of Leicester College of Education and defended its independence with characteristic fighting-spirit; on its merge with Leicester Polytechnic in 1976, she was coopted, aged 81, to the new governing body. Active to the last, she was representative of the class which emerged in the 1914 war of dedicated and very professional women in public life.

MR TREVOR ROSS

Mr Trevor Ross, whose death is announced, was a journalist of long and wide experience who had worked in his native New Zealand and in Australia before making his home in Britain where he was employed on several leading national and Sunday newspapers.

In New Zealand, where he began his career, he took a degree and was once voted Journalist of the Year. On moving to Australia he was features editor of the Melbourne Star for two years and also wrote features for and contributed news to the Christian Science Monitor. He was, as he put it, for many years a denizen of Fleet Street, serving the Daily Express as a sub-editor; the Daily Sketch as chief sub-editor; and the Daily Mail, where he ranged from subbing and copy-editing to stand-in for the Bay Production Editor. He had also worked for several national Sunday news

papers including The Sunday Times and not to long before his death was doing a Sunday slot for The Sunday Telegraph.

After a spell in America, he joined The Times as a holiday relief sub-editor, but it was soon apparent that here was not one of the holiday reliefs to whom it was a relief to bid farewell. Trevor Ross's broad experience, his commonsense and professionalism ensured his regular appearance for many years in and out of season. He was one of the old and mellow journalists who often give weight and balance to a sub-editors' room and as always ready to replace.

Staunchly patriotic, he had sharp nose for cant and bugaboo wherever it occurred. Some of his last days at The Times were spent in the Obituary Department where his sturdy reliability and warm personal

are well remembered as are in the other departments of the paper where he worked.

Lady Agnew, widow of Andrew Agnew, CBE, died on May 6. She was Belle, daughter of James McClelland, and was married in 1912. Her husband died in 1955.

Lady Muirhead, widow of Brigadier Sir John Spender Muirhead, DSO, MC, died on May 7. She was Gertrude, daughter of Maxwell Headwick and was married in 1917. Her husband died in 1972.

Mr Norman Knight, the flautist, sometime member of the English Chamber Orchestra and a past president of the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain, died on May 6.

Lord Paul's, son of Sir Paul's, died on May 11. He was a barrister and author.

ST PAUL'S, Covent Garden, London WC2. Burial: St Paul's, Covent Garden, London WC2.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire. Burial: St Simon Zealot, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire.

ST STEPHEN'S, London EC1. Burial: St Stephen Walbrook, London EC1.

HOLY TRINITY, Brompton Road, SW12. Burial: Holy Trinity, Brompton Road, SW12.

ST ALBANS, Holborn, EC1. Burial: St Albans, Holborn, EC1.

ST COLUMBA'S, Chelmsford, Essex. Burial: St Columba's, Chelmsford, Essex.

CROWN COURT CHURCH, Whitechapel, London E1. Burial: Crown Court Church, Whitechapel, London E1.

WESTMINSTER, London SW1. Burial: Westminster Abbey, London SW1.

WINGFIELD, Huddersfield. Burial: Wingfield, Huddersfield.

Group seeks better child minding

By Sue Reid of *The Times*

Social Services Correspondent

A group of working parents, child-minders and voluntary workers have formed the National Childminding Association to encourage interest and support for the emotional, developmental, social and educational needs of minded children.

The association hopes to bring together in one organization everyone who has an interest in minding. A questionnaire is being sent to all known groups and social services departments to gather information and views.

The draft aims and objectives of the embryo association include encouraging interest in and support for the needs of minders, and contact and communication between minders and local groups involving both minders and parents.

The founders also want facilities for child-minders to improve their skills, cooperation with other groups caring for under-fives and recognition of minded as a positive part of day-care provision.

Their aims follow closely the recommendations of a series of research reports, mostly supported by Government grants, which have concluded that quality of minded is frequently poor, even when minders are registered. But each report has named a lack of support and training for child-minders as the principle cause of low standards.

There are many ways of appraising Victoria's painted and signed *Tintoretto*, with his French training, was one of the most direct links between English and French painting.

The new associations want to coordinate the existing groups to give them a national voice and ensure proper recognition.



Computer pioneer: Mr Thomas Flowers, one of the men responsible for pioneering work on the application of electronics to telephone switching and signalling.

His wartime work on Colossus, which was developed for the Foreign Office's department of communication, was described in the television series, *The Secret War*.

Mr Flowers was head of the switching group of the Post

Academy in 1955. It was bought by Queen Victoria and his career was made. "Albert was enchanted with it, so much so that he made me buy it," he writes. "It was worth £10,000 (£5,000 estimated).
"A wooded river landscape", by Frederick William Ward, fetched £8,500 (estimate £2,500 to £3,000) to Sparkes. Ward is an artist who has won wide acclaim from critics and the public. His work is now in the collection of the National Gallery.

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Personal investment and finance, pages 18 and 19

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

April trade figures at best level since October, 1971 as exports begin to pick up

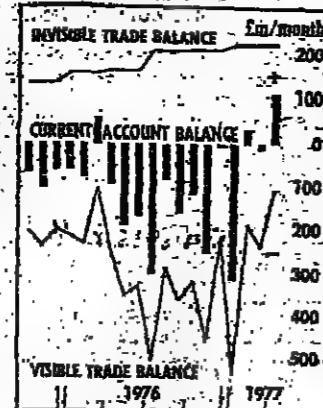
David Blake
Britain's trade deficit fell to £79m in April, its best performance since October, 1971, the £130m improvement on the visible account compared to March helped generate an estimated surplus on the current account of £11m.

Over the past three months, which is generally regarded as a sufficient period to iron out fluctuations, there was a surplus of £126m on the current balance, the first such surplus since early 1972. The figure compares with a £55m deficit during the three months to the end of January.

There was also some encouragement for the Government in an improvement in export volumes, which rose by 1 per cent in April after long months of bitterly disappointing stagnation.

Imports, which have been falling away recently, actually fell in volume terms by 1.3 per cent. There was even a 3.3 per cent increase in the volume of manufactured exports in February, as they bounced back from the depressed March level.

The improvement in our balance of payments also continued, with the deficit falling from £254m in March to £211m April. As the year goes on, an improvement ought to accelerate as more North Sea oilfields come on stream, and by



the end of the year we should be in surplus on our energy account.

All of the factors then point to a considerable improvement, even on the latest figures, by the end of the year, and forecasts of a healthy surplus in 1978 seem likely to prove correct.

But before that happens there is likely to be, at least during the summer, a lull in imports of equipment for the North Sea rise again. Last year these cost us about £50m a month, and a similar figure is expected this year.

The other check to optimism is that most of the improvements recorded in yesterday's figures are from a truly dreadful

fall base. In spite of the huge devaluation of the pound, export volumes for manufactured goods obviously remained static throughout 1976.

The latest increase in exports still leaves total sales abroad of machinery and transport equipment no higher in the three months to April than they were in the previous three months. Exports of some manufacturers which had been doing well, such as food and tobacco, have started to fall back, and fuel remains the only star performer apart from miscellaneous manufacturers.

On the import side, the general decline is much sharper for raw materials than it is for semi-manufactures, which in turn is sharper than the fall in finished goods. Taken together, the picture is one in which the trend for Britain to import more and more manufactured goods for consumption and to take in fewer raw materials for processing has been slowed rather than reversed.

However, some manufacturers now seem hopeful that the extra profits which they took by pushing up export prices will enable them to sell more abroad in future. In April the terms of trade index fell 1 per cent, to 79.7 as export prices remained constant, while import prices rose.

Tables, page 20

Dollar's fall eversed by interest rise

Foreign exchange markets started with a bigger Friday than usual. The dollar continued to fall in morning trading but recovered, by the afternoon, as a result of the 1-point rise, to 64.1 per cent, in American prime rates.

Expectations of further rises in United States interest rates have buoyed the dollar recently, and restricted gains by the Deutsche Mark and the yen, which closed at 2.364 and 27.745 respectively against the dollar. Japan's announcement of an easing in exchange controls on travel and non-trade transactions had little effect.

The Dutch guilder rose strongly against the dollar and, as not followed in full by other currencies, Sterling weakened slightly, with the Bank of England stepping in briefly to sustain the rate and the pound lost little ground on Thursday at 1.715 against the dollar.

Takeover Panel to study Storey deals

The Takeover Panel is to investigate dealings in Storey Brothers, the vinyl products and paper printing group. The sharp price rise before the announcement on Tuesday of 10 per cent on a potential bid hastracted the Panel's interest. The shares rose from 51p at a close of business on the previous Thursday to 63p; on the day before the discussions were announced, amid widespread rumours of talks.

Green Shield outlets

iken up

International Stores and Burns are signing contracts for a total of 135 Green Shield stamp area franchises on among the 700 being given next month by the Tesco styling chain.

Budgen, a south-east chain, so already gives stamps in 715 outlets. Now all Budgen shops will offer them.

UITS advisers resign

Merchant bankers Robert Melling resigned last night as financial advisers to Scottish Universal Investments Ltd. Universal Investments had publicly dissociated itself from the sale of Sir Alan Fraser's 24 per cent stake to the London group. A City row-over UITS bowed the disclosure of an voluntary error and a Stock Exchange inquiry into Sir Alan's share deals.

Cavenham agreed bid expected on Monday

By Our Financial Staff
Terms of an agreed bid between Sir James Goldsmith's two companies, the French based Générale Occidentale, master company, and Cavenham, the British foods group, are expected to be unveiled on Monday.

Yesterday morning Cavenham asked the Stock Exchange to suspend its share quote temporarily pending a further announcement. Through its two main shareholders, Bank and Seaman Management, respectively, it expects to go into a bidding war with Générale.

This followed an announcement in Paris that GO might be planning a big convertible bond issue. The board said that it intended to ask shareholders for authority to issue up to 250m French francs (about £30m) of convertible bonds at 6.60 per cent.

'GO's statement had led to some speculation that the projected bid for Cavenham might be financed not in cash, as had been widely expected, but by a share offer underwritten by a number of British institutions.

A first bid was launched in January at 120p a share, valuing Cavenham at £62m, but it ran into strong opposition from institutional shareholders and

from Montagu, which was retained to represent Cavenham's outside shareholders. Sir James subsequently abandoned the offer.

A bid is now likely to be made at 150p or 160p a share, representing a compromise between the 140p or so which Sir James was originally prepared to concede and the 180p plus蒙古所报的190p。

The decision to call for a suspension of the share listing was prompted by fears that a lack of the old terms might create a false market in the shares.

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Angry shareholders barrack directors in chaotic annual meeting

Sir Eric Miller forced off Peachey board

Sir Eric Miller was forced off the board of Peachey Property Corporation yesterday during a bitter and progressively more chaotic annual meeting.

Lord Mais, who succeeded Sir Eric as chairman of the £29m property group in March, let control of the two-and-a-half hour meeting slip as angry shareholders barracked the directors, demanding more details of a boardroom row that has triggered a Department of Trade investigation into the group.

The row centres on the claim by Peachey that Sir Eric misled his fellow directors and the group's auditors, Price Waterhouse, over expenditure of £222,000. Last month the group issued a writ against Sir Eric demanding the return of £130,000.

Shareholders heard for the first time of a £280,000 offer to settle any claims against Sir Eric. Mr Alfred Isaacs, a friend of Sir Eric, told shareholders that Lord Mais had rejected a personal offer of £230,000 and the assurance that Sir Eric "would go quietly" if Peachey dropped "its smear campaign against the man".

Lord Mais said that the offer had been rejected because it was conditional upon the return of certain letters from the merchant bank Keyser Ullmann, and that it was insufficient as the £280,000 offered "was not the end

of the road as far as claims are concerned.

He later confirmed that Mr Isaacs and Lady Miller had come to his house. But said that "as we have litigation I think it would be utterly wrong to give details of what was a private meeting".

Mr Isaacs firmly denied that there were any conditions attached to the offer. "My only request was that Peachey should stop the smear campaign against Sir Eric. This was not an attempt on my part to cover up any alleged misdemeanour."

Shareholders were not told that one letter from Keyser—shown to Peachey's directors and auditors by Sir Eric and showing that the £130,000 was deposited to the company's use—is now claimed to be a forgery.

Mr Derek Wilde, Keyser's chairman, said yesterday that it is "absolutely confirmed" that the signature is a forgery. Written on what appears to be Keyser notepaper, misprinted misspellings, unusually for the bank starting "Dear Miller" and ending "We all hope you are now feeling better". The letter was used to corroborate Sir Eric's explanation for the use of the disputed £130,000.

Mr Wilde says the bank "very much respects the way in which it has been brought into this affair". And he con-

firms that the bank may take the matter to the police.

Explaining the affair of the £130,000 at the meeting Sir Eric, who was knighted by his friend and Peachey tenant, Sir Harold Wilson, said the money was "a down payment on an overseas development".

When asked why Keyser recorded the deposit in Sir Eric's personal account he said "because I paid the money out previously". He went on to say that he was still awaiting certified photocopies confirming that the money had been paid earlier.

In a call for reelection, Sir Eric told the meeting: "It has been said that I have erred and I apologise." Turning to his fellow directors and to cheer him on the floor, Sir Eric continued: "These are my biggest mistakes and I am going to make them no more".

Although vocally superior, Sir Eric's supporters lost a hand vote for his reelection by 64 to 54. This was later confirmed by a poll showing 10.1 million votes against Sir Eric and 702,881 for Mr. Douglas Chance.

Sir Eric's successor, Mr Douglas Chance, was defeated on a show of hands by 50 to 38. On a poll called by Lord Mais Mr Chance was elected by 10 million to 772,800 votes.

How the markets moved

Rises

Anglo Am Corp 5p to 24sp
Barloworld 7p to 17p
Boustead 5p to 25p
Brent Walker 4p to 10p
Caltex 5p to 6p
Gardiners 5p to 6p
Highland 7p to 8p
Latrobe 5p to 38p

Falls

BTR 7p to 24p
Cosalt 7p to 54p
Gantkamp 8p to 12p
GEC 7p to 18p
Hawker Siddeley 16p to 65p
Imperial Chemical 20p to 28p
Imp Chem Ind 5p to 35p

British were hit by profit-taking. Gold was up 51.50 to 514.125 an ounce. Gold-backed securities eased back from record gains. The dollar premium was 120.37 per cent, while SDRE-E was 1.16135 on Friday, while SDRE-F was 0.675400. Commodity prices: Coffee prices fell. Reuter's Index was at 163.8 (previous 167.6). The "effective devaluation" rate was 51.7 per cent.

The Times index : 187.81 - 1.93
The FT index : 467.8 - 2.4

THE POUND

Lipton L. 18p to 58p
Marlboro Cos 10p to 71p
Oil Exploration 5p to 17p
Samsonite 5p to 318p
Starkey Inds 5p to 26p
Vita-Tex 5p to 36p
Warne Wright 3p to 40p

Kwai Sane Disc 5p to 175p
Prop & Revert 5p to 240p
Royalist Parsons 5p to 210p
Sulphur 5p to 55p
Tricentrol 5p to 155p
Ultramar 5p to 190p
Whitecroft 5p to 163p

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Reports, page 20

Grindlays sign dollar loan for foreign buyer

Grindlays Brandis yesterday signed the agreement for the first ever dollar loan for a foreign buyer under the government sponsored export credits guarantee scheme.

Another large dollar loan for a borrower in the Gulf, which, unlike the medium-sized Grindlays Brandis credit, will be syndicated, is to be announced by Morgan Grenfell early next week.

The successful conclusion of these buyer credit arrangements in foreign currency follows months of anxiety on the part of both bankers and exporters over new guidelines laid down by the Chancellor late last year.

The Grindlays Brandis agree-

BNOC set to raise \$700m Euroloan

By Christopher Wilkins

An advanced stage of negotiations has been reached for the British National Oil Corporation to raise \$700m (about £407m) through a loan in the Eurodollar market.

Precise terms of the loan are not yet known, although it is likely to be for a maturity of at least five years and possibly longer.

It will be the first significant borrowing in the commercial markets by the state-owned oil corporation, which had been doing well, such as food and tobacco, have started to fall back, and fuel remains the only star performer apart from miscellaneous manufacturers.

BNOC took over the oil and gas assets of the National Coal Board for some £90m and paid £83m to acquire the 21 per cent stake in the Niranjan North Sea field owned by Burma's

It has since spent a similar amount in the Thistle field, buying out the bulk of Burma's

17.2 per cent holding and also acquiring 9.5 per cent of Burmah Oil Development, the operator for the Thistle field.

In addition to these items, BNOC has been involved in exploration and development expenditure in various North Sea fields, chiefly Thistle, Dunlin, Niranjan and Statfjord, and, to a lesser extent, Murchison.

The loan will be the first major one in the international bank markets by a British state-backed borrower since the Treasury raised \$1.500m earlier this year.

That loan proved to be controversial among bankers because of the extremely low rates of interest, averaging a shade less than 1 per cent over the six-month interbank rate for Eurodollars.

Many banks, particularly the leading American banks, have made it clear they are not prepared to participate in loans with interest rate margins of less than 1 per cent.

We are probably the biggest retailer of suits in Europe," he said in his first newspaper interview since taking over the Burton helm last December.

The group intends to carry on making its traditional made-to-measure suits as well as the off-the-peg variety, with five factories at Guisborough, Goole, Doncaster, Waddington and Bolton, each employing between 425 and 770 people.

There will also be some factory alterations and cutting activity retained at the central service complex at Hudson Road, Leeds.

The bulk of the sales are through Burton's chain of over 350 menswear shops, but new markets are starting to open up in America, for instance, where a first foray has shown that British-made three-piece pinstripe and flannel suits could go down very well.

Although important, efficiency in manufacturing is only one component in Burton's menswear equation. Mr Spencer, who has had a glowing track record with the group's Topshop, Peter Robinson and Evans (Outsizes) retail chains, is aiming to apply the same principles to the men's shop.

He has already weeded out

57 unprofitable stores and is applying tighter trading practices, including speeding up stock turnover. In France, where Burton's remains a small retail chain, Mr Spencer has cut stock levels by 40 per cent.

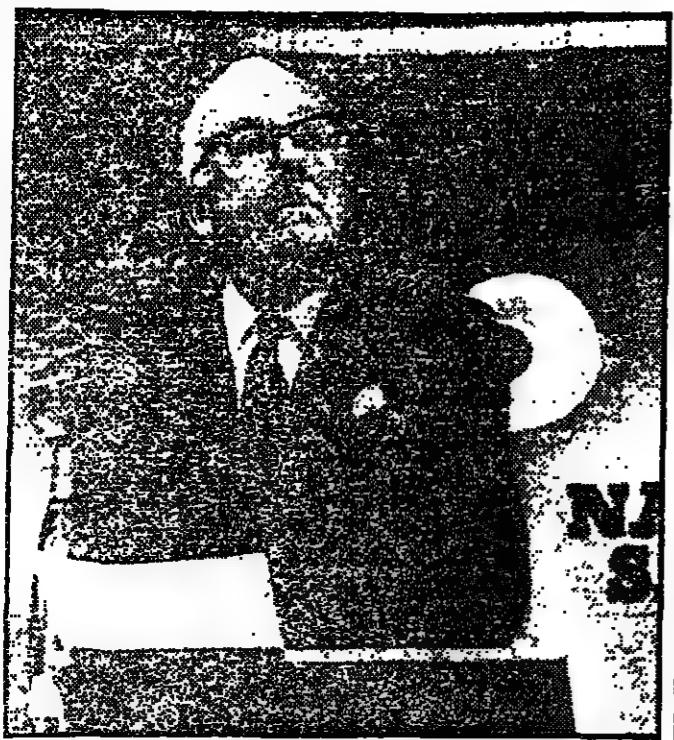
Burton stock lead times are a characteristic of Topshop, the successful young woman's wear subsidiary. So is the principle of allocating part of the store area to independent franchisees to supply high-risk fashion goods to "spice up" the basic stock.

Mr Francis Black, Tilling's financial director, commented yesterday that the main thrust for the group's overseas expansion programme was the United States, partly because it led the world economic cycle, and partly because quoted companies were historically cheap (Mr Alan Draper, Tilling's deputy managing director, lives in the United States looking for suitable acquisitions).

Suits, more or less equally divided between made-to-measure, account for about 60 per cent of Burton's menswear sales, with conventional-style jackets and trousers taking up about another 20 per cent.

Sweaters,

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE



It was the end of an era yesterday for the National Savings Movement as 250 delegates in varying moods of nostalgia and anger flooded into Bournemouth's Town Hall for the last National Savings Assembly. The voluntary National Savings Movement, which sprung into being in the heyday of First World War patriotism, is now fighting for its own life.

Delegates heard chairman Sir John Anstey, pictured above at yesterday's assembly, outline the pattern of events which have brought the movement to this pass—the damning Page report on National Savings, the abolition of the savings stamp and lastly the removal of the movement's 580-strong Civil Service support staff as a government economy measure next year.

The loss of the back-up staff certainly means no more national assemblies. The question is whether it also means no more National Savings Movement.

Unit trusts

When muscles have to be flexed

The Investment Protection Committee of the Unit Trust Association is always inclined to be a trifle backward in coming forward, preferring to sort out its differences with corporate managements through backstage manoeuvres rather than in the full glare of publicity.

This week, however, in a first-time show of united opposition the association voted against, and succeeded in stopping, the emigration of two quoted London unit subsidiaries—Southern Kinta Consolidated and Southern Malaysian Tin Dressings—to Malaysia.

The background to the issue is that London Tin effectively nationalised by the Malaysian government last year, wished to re-domesticise its collection of quoted tin mining subsidiaries in Malaysia in line with nationalist aspirations to have 70 per cent of the country's natural resource industries under government control.

The Unit Trust Association has no quarrel with this, but in the weeks leading up to Tuesday's shareholders meeting to approve this change it failed to persuade the boards to pay final dividends before the groups left the United Kingdom, in view of the onerous burden of double taxation involved in payments from Malaysia.

Once the companies change their domicile dividend payments become subject to Malaysian withholding tax at 40 per cent, and the 60 per cent residue is taxed again at the standard rate in the hands of United Kingdom shareholders. This is a great disadvantage to unit trusts: the payments are classified as unfranked income on which unit

MD

Back to basics: Unit trusts 2

Tax privileges of the unit-holder

What does the unit-holder want from his investment? Last week I explained the concept of a unit trust for those not already familiar with this investment medium. The second of our Back to Basics articles about the industry examines the various choices available to a unit-holder and the income and capital gains tax position.

One of the main advantages of investing through unit trusts is the special capital gains tax concession enjoyed by both the fund and the unit-holder. Essentially, a unit-holder paying basic rate tax will not incur any liability to capital gains on profits amounting to £5,000 or less in any tax year.

On total disposals below £1,000 a year the unit-holder, like any other investor, will enjoy exemption from capital gains tax.

Unit-holders selling their units receive a tax credit of 17.5 per cent to offset against their gains tax liability. Since this tax concession was made some four years ago the maximum of this tax credit has been established at half the basic rate of income tax and moves up and down accordingly.

On gains of less than £5,000 in any one tax year an investor, whether he is invested in unit trusts or any other investment, receives his unit trust dividend net of tax at a standard rate of 17½ per cent on

ment medium, can opt, if it is most favourable, to have half his gains assessed at his marginal rate of income tax instead of paying a flat rate of 30 per cent on capital profits. Consequently, the basic rate taxpayer who has made profits in unit trusts has a nil tax charge on his gains. For the assessment of his tax liability is based on half his gains being taxed at 35 per cent, equivalent to a rate of 17.5 per cent on the total.

The tax credit he receives from the unit trust is exactly equivalent to this amount.

A higher rate taxpayer will, however, have some liability. If his top (that is marginal) tax rate was 45 per cent overall, for instance, his gain, if he opted to be taxed under the half income rule, as the gains tax alternative is usually described, would be taxed at an effective rate of 22.5 per cent. As 17.5 per cent would be offset by the tax credit that would leave only 5 per cent to pay.

The maximum anyone can pay on any amounts of unit trust profits is 12½ per cent, the high rate taxpayer with substantial gains who is subject to gains tax at 30 per cent still gets 17½ per cent tax charge.

Still on capital gains. The unit trust itself is taxed at a special rate of 17½ per cent on

its gains. (A concession also enjoyed by investment trusts.) This gives the fund the additional advantage of rolling up its profits at a faster rate.

Unit-holders receive regular, usually half-yearly, dividends from their unit trust investments. The amount of these payments is governed by the income received by the trust from the normal dividend payments from the companies in which it invests.

Our tax is deducted the annual management charge (a maximum of five per cent of the funds under management) and the income is distributed to shareholders net of tax.

The yield calculated by the manager is based on the grossed up amount of the dividend paid to unit-holders, after deduction of management charges.

Although the unit-holder receives his unit trust dividend net of tax at the standard rate of 17½ per cent he can reclaim the tax (itemized on the tax credit slip attached to the distribution voucher) if his income overall is too low to be taxed. If he pays higher rate tax, on the other hand, he will owe the Inland Revenue rather more.

The unit trust does not pay tax on the dividends income it channels to holders except in the case of unfranked income, which bears the full corporate tax under the present regulations. Then the unit-holder pays his share of tax on the distribution income. Income from gilts and other fixed interest securities fall into this category.

In fact, most funds receive only 4 in 5 per cent of their revenue from unfranked income against which the trust management charges can be offset.

If a unit-holder wishes to reinvest his income automatically

he can do so, either by buying units in an accumulation fund or by buying accumulation units in a fund, and there are many of them, that offer this facility. Obviously the unit-holder does not "receive" the income but it must be declared each year. The unit trust group sends out the details to unit-holders.

Armed with technical and administrative detail then, how does our aspiring unit-holder select the fund or funds to suit his particular requirements?

He will find that unit trust funds are broadly divided into four categories. There are income funds, where the managers invest with the primary objective of obtaining good yields; capital growth funds, where the criterion is capital appreciation; general funds, which aim for a reasonable return of 5% per cent.

There are specialist funds, which concentrate investment in one defined geographical area, such as the Far East or the United States, or one specific industry such as commodities, or again, one type of investment, such as recovery situations.

The last category tends to be directed more towards the experienced investor or professional adviser than the novice, and for the small saver

Morgan
Drummond

purchase and sale. If you have sold stocks and shares the stockbrokers' bought-and-sold notes will give the information.

If you acquired the shares before April 6, 1965, the calculation is rather more complicated owing to the fact that it is only the gain or loss since April 6, 1965, that counts.

If you would like further information on the subject, ask the tax office for its leaflet CGT. If you are still in doubt about a particular transaction, show full details in your form or on an attached piece of paper and ask the tax office to help you. If a lot of money is involved you ought to seek professional advice.

During the year ended April 5, 1977, there were extensive changes to the law on development gains. The development gains rules apply, in general up to July 31, 1976, and after that date development land takes over. These rules will not affect the majority of taxpayers but it may be reassuring to know that your main private residence is exempt, in addition the first £10,000 of realized development value is exempt and both husband and wife are entitled to the exemptions. If you think you may be liable to this tax you must get professional advice.

In the section headed "Charitable Assets Acquired" you must enter details of all assets you have bought during the year ended April 5, 1977, which might give rise to a taxable gain or allowable loss when subsequently sold. Enter the date, description and fair value—or the market value if the asset was a gift. If you inherited the asset enter the value agreed by the donor for capital transfer tax purposes.

You need not include exempt assets, except for your own home which must be shown.

Vera Di Palma



The fifth in a series of articles explaining how to fill in the tax return

Last week we looked at the first three sections under the general heading "Outgoings". The remaining section headed "Other Outgoings" scoops up the rest of the tax deductible payments.

Payments under a deed of covenant should be included here. A deed of covenant is a legally binding agreement under which you pay a fixed amount each year to a person, charity or church. Although you pay net of basic rate tax you should enter the gross amount in the form.

If you make alimony or maintenance payments under a court order or some other binding agreement for maintaining your children and separated or divorced wife, you should enter the gross amount payable and the name of the recipient. Unless they are "small maintenance payments" basic rate tax must be deducted at source, thereby giving yourself tax relief. The gross amount will also reduce your tax at the higher rates and the investment income surcharge.

If the payments come within the definition of "small maintenance payments" they must be made gross without deduction of income tax. For 1976/77 small maintenance payments were those that did not exceed £12 a week or £52 monthly.

From the UTA's point of view public moves are only made in extremis, but the London Tin affair does indicate that, come the crunch, it is prepared to put its mouth where its, or rather, its unit-holders', money is.

This does not, however, appear to herald any new cracking instinct on the part of the investment protection committee who are still only interested in tackling situations where they are firstly directly affected and secondly in sufficient strength, voting wise, to put some muscle behind the protest.

'Deductible' payments and how to sort out your capital gains and losses

This series is based on the author's audio cassette How to prepare your tax return 1977-78, issued by Mobile Training and Exhibitions.

Gains and losses on the sale of unit trust units and shares in investment trusts must be shown separately from all other assets—this is because the net gains attract a special tax reduction.

Remember that a capital gain or capital loss can arise not only when you sell an asset—such as land and buildings, stocks and shares, pictures, antiques and jewelry, but also when you give an asset away. The measure of sale proceeds in such a case is the market value on the date of the gift.

There are a number of exemptions. These include household goods, personal belongings, jewelry and all other chattels provided each is worth £1,000 or less at the time of both acquisition and disposal. Private motor cars are exempt. So are chattels that have a predictable life of 50 years or less (boats, for example) but note that commodities and plant and machinery used in a trade are "exempt".

Other exemptions are savings certificates: premium bonds; gilt-edged securities

held for more than one year; your own life assurance policies and deferred annuity contracts (the "gain" from guaranteed income bonds is not included under this heading; it is taxed as income for higher rate tax only). None of these need be entered in the form.

As cash itself is excluded no details are required of movements in cash, bank deposits, building society deposits and the like.

In addition there is the small disposal exemption. If the total proceeds of sales and gifts, net of any selling expenses in the tax year, does not exceed £1,000 you are exempt from capital gains tax. Only one £1,000 exemption is allowed for a married couple. However, although exempt, you are asked to enter in your form the words "disposals not exceeding £1,000". If you find that after all the proceeds were below £1,000 you made a loss, it will be in your interests to calculate and enter the loss.

There are a few other exemptions but you are asked to include details on your form so that the tax office can satisfy itself that you really are

entitled to the exemption. The most important of these for the majority of individuals is one's own house. Although in most cases the gain will be wholly exempt from capital gains tax, details must be included in the form.

If you have sold your house during the year ended April 5, 1977, and are quite sure that it is exempt I suggest you do not waste time calculating a gain that will not be taxable.

Simply state the address of the property and in the money column write the word "exempt". If the tax office wants more information they will ask for it. The same point

applies if you have a second house occupied rent free by a dependent relative. Although this is exempt the fact of the sale should be shown in the form.

If your losses for the year exceed your gains make sure that the loss is entered in the form and stated as such. It can be carried forward against gains in later years. There is no limit.

In calculating the gain or loss remember you are deducting the original cost plus buying expenses from the disposal proceeds less selling expenses. You should list each asset separately showing the date of

M&G RECOVERY FUND

Widely acclaimed by financial journalists and investment advisers, M&G's Recovery Fund, designed to produce capital growth, ended March as Britain's best-performing unit trust over the 12-month and six-year periods. It has a policy of buying the shares of companies that have fallen upon hard times. Many of these companies recover and through a process of careful selection M&G has been able to bring high rewards over the years to Recovery Fund investors. An investment of £1,000 at the time of the Fund's launch in May 1969 had, at the offered price on 12th May 1977, grown to £4,752 including reinvested income. During this period the FT Industrial Ordinary Index, which does not include reinvested income, has gone up by 9.3%.

Investors should regard unit trusts as a long-term investment and not suitable for money needed at short notice.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

No income from the Fund's investments is automatically reinvested for your benefit and at the latest offer price of 235.60 on the 12th May 1977 the estimated current gross yield was 5.7%. Prices and yields appear in the FT and other leading newspapers daily. The price includes an initial charge of 3.4% and there is an annual charge of 1.5% plus VAT.

You can buy units on any business day. Contracts for purchases of units will be for settlement in 3 weeks later. The trustee is Barclays Bank Trust Company, London EC3R 8BB. Fund manager is the Society of Securities for Trade. Commission at 1.5% is payable to accredited agents.

M&G is a member of the Unit Trust Association.

TWO WAYS TO INVEST

In addition to investing a capital sum as mentioned above you can enter a Regular Monthly Saving Plan through a life assurance policy for as little as £10 a month, and you are normally entitled to claim tax relief on the first £1,000 for each £100 paid.

An E10 plan, to reflect average rates, can bring down your net monthly cost to only £8.25, with which you buy units worth considerably more.

Regular investment of this type also means that you can take advantage of the inevitable fluctuations in the price of units through Pound Cost Averaging, which gives you a positive arithmetic advantage, because your regular investment buys more units when the price is lower and fewer when it is high. You also get life cover of at least 120 times your monthly payment throughout the period you are at entry is 54 or under (women 50), and rather less up to 73.

If you cash in or stop your investments during the first four years there is a penalty, and the tax authorities require us to make a deduction, so you should not consider the Plan for less than five years. 51% to 94% (depending on your starting age) is invested except in the first two years when an additional 20 per cent is retained to meet setting-up expenses.

M&G is a member of the Life Offices Association.

Are you a existing M&G holder? Yes/No

Declaration PART I I declare that, to the best of my belief, I am in good health and free from disease, that I have not had any serious illness or major operation, but I do not engage in any hazardous sports or pursuits. I will not engage in any sport or physical exercise which may be dangerous to my health.

Declaration PART II I agree that this declaration and any declaration made by me to the trustee, M&G (Assurance) Ltd, and that will accept their customary form of policy.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

OR £10 Complete this section if you wish to make a lump sum investment from £500.

I WISH TO INVEST £_____ in ACCUMULATION UNITS of the M&G Recovery Fund.

I do not expect to withdraw the capital sum until I have sold the units. I will not sell the units unless I have a genuine need for the money.

I declare that I am not resident outside the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the British Overseas Territories and that I am not entering the units as the income of any non-resident outside the United Kingdom.

I enclose my cheque for the first monthly payment, payable to M&G (Assurance) Ltd.

Occupation _____

NAME AND ADDRESS OF USUAL DOCTOR (to whom reference may be made)

DATE _____

TELEPHONE 01-525 4585. This section to be completed by all applicants.

EITHER £500 Complete this section if you wish to make a lump sum investment from £500.

I WISH TO INVEST £_____ in ACCUMULATION UNITS of the M&G Recovery Fund at the price ruling on receipt of this application.

I do not expect to withdraw the capital sum until I have sold the units. I will not sell the units unless I have a genuine need for the money.

I declare that I am not resident outside the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the British Overseas Territories and that I am not entering the units as the income of any non-resident outside the United Kingdom.

PART II I agree that this declaration and any declaration made by me to the trustee, M&G (Assurance) Ltd, and that will accept their customary form of policy.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

DATE _____

Registered in England No. 1048359. Reg. Office as above.

FOUNDRY OF BRITAIN'S UNIT TRUSTS

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Investor's week

Back to the old days in equities

Traditional Fund managers are those who have a choice of stocks and bonds. They are increasingly turning to equities. This week, in a level of trading not seen since the early 1970s, the FT Index gained 17.9, the FT Index gained 7.7 over the five sessions and was not put on more than 27. Since the previous high point in the year was breached just two trading days ago, the market has risen by both the Industrial and the public sectors. The last two years more than two years ago when the market was recovering from its lowest point in modern times. But this time's advance is more soundly based even if the pace has been financial community surprise. The institutions appear to have come to the conclusion that the economy after several days of downing is now well on its way to recovery and that inflation cannot be far away. The week was given a good start by the Wholesale Prices Index which indicated that inflation might just be on the rise again. This buoyant mood was even more pronounced on Friday when the following day's institutions withdrew large sums from the field clear for the escalators to take profit on short-term positions. Inspired by widespread talk of the following day's trade, shares might be good enough to show a visible surplus. Thursday proved to be the best session so far this year both in quality and quantity. The mood was also helped by the absence of a half-expected rights issue from Shell and the easing of earlier fears that the Government was about to go ahead with its placing of million BP shares. Though most of the spotlight on equities, institutional funds were diverted away, either than switched, from the risked market. Many cause of interest hopes turned out when the minimum lending rate was cut further—this date met with a resounding response.

David Mott

MAIN CHANGES OF THE WEEK

		Rises	Falls	
Year's high	low	Company	Movement	Comment
4p	41p	House of Fraser	16p to 124p Bid talk.	Speculative demand
5p	20p	Lipton	35p to 85p Head of figures	
5p	58p	Oil Exploration	56p to 178p Thelma Field prospects	
5p	118p	Staveley Indus	20p to 258p Figures	
5p	80p	Reynolds Parsons	33p to 210p Dry-order hopes	
52p	73p	J. Bibby	10p to 124p Bid talk.	10p to 124p Bid talk.
5p	30p	Cossor	10p to 54p Price support	
5p	72p	Courtaulds	10p to 128p Permanent selling	
5p	80p	Sunbeam	10p to 180p Price war fears	
12p	340p	Unilever	13p to 42p Quarterly figures	

Unit trust performance

NET TRUSTS: Medium and income funds (progress this year and the last three years). Outlander Index: 1911.2; rise from January 1, 77: +28.1%; average annual rate of return: 10.4% over 3 years; 10.4% over 5 years. Data supplied by Mercury Management and Unilever, 36 Finsbury Place, London, EC2.

STUDY	1976	1977	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967
Technology	27.3	31.3	14.1	25.5	17.3	14.1	12.1	11.1	11.1	11.1
Engineering	24.5	24.5	12.4	21.4	14.4	12.4	11.4	10.4	10.4	10.4
Private	18.2	18.2	11.2	16.2	11.2	11.2	10.2	9.2	9.2	9.2
Industries Inc. Assets	18.4	18.4	10.8	16.8	11.8	11.8	10.8	9.8	9.8	9.8
British Union	17.3	17.3	10.7	16.7	11.7	11.7	10.7	9.7	9.7	9.7
Water General	15.8	15.8	10.5	15.5	10.5	10.5	9.5	8.5	8.5	8.5
Gas & Electric	14.0	14.0	10.3	14.3	10.3	10.3	9.3	8.3	8.3	8.3
Electric Growth	12.6	12.6	10.2	12.7	10.2	10.2	9.2	8.2	8.2	8.2
Midland	12.5	12.5	10.1	12.6	10.1	10.1	9.1	8.1	8.1	8.1
Life Assurance	12.6	12.6	10.0	12.7	10.0	10.0	9.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Investment Trust	12.2	12.2	9.9	12.3	9.9	9.9	8.9	7.9	7.9	7.9
Leisure	12.1	12.1	9.8	12.2	9.8	9.8	8.8	7.8	7.8	7.8
Securities	11.6	11.6	9.7	11.7	9.7	9.7	8.7	7.7	7.7	7.7
Property	11.0	11.0	9.6	11.1	9.6	9.6	8.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
Merlin	10.4	10.4	9.5	10.5	9.5	9.5	8.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Thames	10.3	10.3	9.4	10.4	9.4	9.4	8.4	7.4	7.4	7.4
Maltings	10.2	10.2	9.3	10.3	9.3	9.3	8.3	7.3	7.3	7.3
Canary Wharf	9.9	9.9	9.0	10.0	9.0	9.0	8.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
Energy General	9.5	9.5	8.6	9.6	8.6	8.6	7.6	6.6	6.6	6.6
Midland	9.2	9.2	8.3	9.3	8.3	8.3	7.3	6.3	6.3	6.3
Life Balanced	9.0	9.0	8.1	9.1	8.1	8.1	7.1	6.1	6.1	6.1
Union Wall Capital	9.0	9.0	8.1	9.1	8.1	8.1	7.1	6.1	6.1	6.1
Scottish	9.0	9.0	8.1	9.1	8.1	8.1	7.1	6.1	6.1	6.1
Ringmer	8.8	8.8	7.9	8.9	7.9	7.9	6.9	5.9	5.9	5.9
G & G Sec. General	8.6	8.6	7.7	8.7	7.7	7.7	6.7	5.7	5.7	5.7
Proprietary Frog	8.2	8.2	7.3	8.3	7.3	7.3	6.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Life & Pensions	8.2	8.2	7.3	8.3	7.3	7.3	6.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Income Trust	7.7	7.7	6.8	7.8	6.8	6.8	5.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
Investment Fund	7.6	7.6	6.7	7.7	6.7	6.7	5.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
Equity Fund	7.2	7.2	6.3	7.3	6.3	6.3	5.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
Electrical & Tech	7.2	7.2	6.3	7.3	6.3	6.3	5.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
Industrial Bonds	5.8	5.8	5.0	6.0	5.0	5.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Central	5.4	5.4	4.5	5.5	4.5	4.5	3.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Industrial Glance	5.3	5.3	4.4	5.4	4.4	4.4	3.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
Invertor Bearer	5.3	5.3	4.4	5.4	4.4	4.4	3.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
Industrial Growth	5.3	5.3	4.4	5.4	4.4	4.4	3.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
Industrial Fund	5.2	5.2	4.3	5.3	4.3	4.3	3.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Industrial Income	5.2	5.2	4.3	5.3	4.3	4.3	3.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Industrial Income	5.2	5.2	4.3	5.3	4.3	4.3	3.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Industrial Income	5.0	5.0	4.1	5.1	4.1	4.1	3.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Industrial Income	4.9	4.9	4.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Industrial Income	4.8	4.8	3.9	4.9	3.9	3.9	2.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Industrial Income	4.7	4.7	3.8	4.8	3.8	3.8	2.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Industrial Income	4.6	4.6	3.7	4.7	3.7	3.7	2.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Industrial Income	4.5	4.5	3.6	4.6	3.6	3.6	2.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
Industrial Income	4.4	4.4	3.5	4.5	3.5	3.5	2.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Industrial Income	4.3	4.3	3.4	4.4	3.4	3.4	2.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Industrial Income	4.2	4.2	3.3	4.3	3.3	3.3	2.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Industrial Income	4.1	4.1	3.2	4.2	3.2	3.2	2.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Industrial Income	4.0	4.0	3.1	4.1	3.1	3.1	2.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Industrial Income	3.9	3.9	3.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Industrial Income	3.8	3.8	2.9	3.9	2.9	2.9	1.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Industrial Income	3.6	3.6	2.8	3.7	2.8	2.8	1.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Industrial Income	3.5	3.5	2.7	3.6	2.7	2.7	1.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Industrial Income	3.4	3.4	2.6	3.5	2.6	2.6	1.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Industrial Income	3.3	3.3	2.5	3.4	2.5	2.5	1.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Industrial Income	3.2	3.2	2.4	3.3	2.4	2.4	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Industrial Income	3.1	3.1	2.3	3.2	2.3	2.3	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Industrial Income	3.0	3.0	2.2	3.1	2.2	2.2	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Industrial Income	2.9	2.9	2.1	3.0	2.1	2.1	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Industrial Income	2.7	2.7	2.0	2.8	2.0	2.0	1.0	0.0	0.	

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Profit-taking but index up 17.7 on week

Though confronted with the smallest trade deficit for more than a year and a quarter-point cut in the Minimum Lending Rate, shares made little headway after early profit-taking.

By 11 am, the FT Index had lost 2.7 and though there was then an attempt at a minor rally, it soon petered out and by the close the index was 2.4 down at 467.3, a net gain of 17.7 over the week.

While profits were being taken in most speculative stocks, pharmaceutical group Willow Francis was again in demand. The shares closed 5 up at 61p. The key to the interest is a 30 per cent stake held by a Swiss company, Charfusen. For some months, dealers have expected takeover news.

The trade figures, though improved, did not quite match up to the bullish expectations which played such a prominent part in Thursday's strong gains.

In gilt, the early exhaustion of the 9½ per cent, 1982, "tap" made for a bright opening, but it was not sustained.

Here, too, the MLR cut and the trade figures were largely discounted by the close, medium and long dates had retreated to positions half a point better than their overnight levels and "shorts" were

unchanged, or a shade firmer.

A number of stocks which for various speculative reasons have been in demand this week succumbed to profit-taking.

Notable among these were

Reyrolle Parsons, off 6p to

210p in spite of the Drax go-

alldown, BTR which reacted 7p to

240p, Storey Brothers 4p to

116p and Hunting Gibson which

came off no less than 20p to

17.7 over the week.

Others to lose ground for a

similar reason were Galenkamp

"A" 8p to 25p and Laurence Scott at 135p. On the positive side, Colmore Investments rose

2.5p to 22p after terms from

its latest deal with Cowie and

the company also speculative de-

sire for Sheepbridge up 5p to

85p, Hayes Wharf 12p to 164p

and Eaverbrook "A" where

the gain was 2p to 54p.

F. H. Lloyd, mentioned here

yesterday, were steady at 751p

(no 99p as inadvertently re-

ported). The company says that it has investigated recent share

movements—which have been

almost entirely between the

institutions—and can find no

evidence of a stake being built

up.

As foreshadowed here a short

while ago, the likelihood of a

General Osteoclastic bid for

the Cavenham minority appears

to be moving closer and Caven-

ham's shares were suspended at

143p with an announcement ex-

pected early next week.

After announcing a 233m rights issue, Thomas Tilling were lowered 4p to 91p and the prospect of a Department of Trade investigation into a subsidiary proved too much for Cosalt which dipped 7p to 54p.

Ahead of figures due next

week, Lipton continued to

find favour and rose another

1.5p to 68p, making a gain of

3p over the week.

Averys which reported last

Tuesday, was anxious to be sup-

ported and turned 9p to 17.2p.

For the last month there was

some speculation about a

possible bid, but

it was denied.

Cowie and Lyndgate Eng-

lish 10p Int 1.5p to 1.54p.

Lyndgate Eng 10p Int 1.5p to

1.54p. Ash & Tompkins "A"

1.5p to 1.54p, another 1.5p to

1.54p over the week.

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Dividends in Business News dividends are shown net of tax on pence per share. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. * Cents a share.

Latest dividends

Company

Ord

Year

Pay date

Year's Div

Prec

(and per value)

Royal Bank (116) Int 7.5

— — — — —

John Beales (20) Fin 1.58

7 — — — —

A & C Black (25p) Fin 3.39

3.12 — — — —

John Cowie (5p) Int 0.66

0.6 — — — —

John Crowther (25p) Fin 0.53

0.53 — — — —

Lyndgate Eng (10p) Int 0.71

0.71 — — — —

Silverstones Fin 2

1.45 — — — —

Sheepbridge (25p) Fin 1.5

1.5 — — — —

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Dividends in Business News dividends are shown net of tax on pence per share. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. * Cents a share.

well report hit Tricentrol which slumped 8p to 155p and Barwell was a shade firmer at 83p after the annual report.

In stores, Harton "A" con-

tinued to reflect this week's unhappy news, going up another 4p to 74p and serving to widen other stores where GUS "A" fell 3p to 227p. Hesketh, though, firmed another penny to 124p up 18p over the week—on continued talk of possible bid moves in the offing.

Among the industrial leaders, Hawker Siddeley reacted strongly to its recent big gains, to drop 16p to 652p and ICI were

spurred by Thelma Field hopes,

making a rise of 5p to 170p,

while Averys and Eaverbrook

both rose 1.5p to 17.7p.

At the earlier denial of the

likelihood of a bid, J. Bibby lost

another 5p to 134p, while on

the property pitch, Peaches were firmer by a penny to 51p after the eventual annual meet-

ing.

After providing some £500,000 for exceptional losses on

the two developments in France, taxable profit before tax, but the story should be different after tax.

The profit mix is changing. This year, Carousons should return to useful profits in Britain though it will make less in South Africa. The dividend has not enhanced its recovery scope. At 54p, the shares could be yielding 15 per cent.

After a fall in the share price

of 1.5p to 233p but shares

lost ground after statements

were made by Ash & Tompkins

and Federated Chemical

2p to 60p. John Beales gained

3p to 54p and motor dealer

Dutton, Finsbury, mentioned

here, were 1p up to 37p.

Equity turnover on May 12 was £115.87m (£23.142 bargains).

Active stocks yesterday, accord-

ing to Exchange Telegraph,

were Shell, ICI, Glaxo, BP,

Oil Exploration, Distillers,

Merricks, P. O., Lloyds, Mid-

land, GEC, Barclays, Avery,

GKN, Unilever, Beaverbrook,

A & C, Reyrolle, Parsons and

Sheepbridge.

Serenity at Bowater: inquiries closed

By Our Financial Staff

All was serenity at the annual meeting of giant paper, pack-

aging and commodities group Bowater Corporation, as Lord

Erroll of Hale, chairman, mok

in his pride, a March "fire at

Ellsmere Port where the group

has its United Kingdom pulp

and paper mill and two pack-

aging plants.

And he was able to say that

a board inquiry into participa-

tions and share dealings com-

pleted some months ago found

nothing amiss. The man

was able to say that the re-

mainder is reckoned to be sold

in the next 12 months.

Bowater's share price, in

fact, rose 1.5p to 235p and, as

for the total payout, is being

reduced to 5.5p gross to 3.5p.

Turnover rose from £25.5m to

£29.3m. Interest was cut from

£355,000 to £211,000 after

writing-off £1.28m as part of

direct costs and after including

£155,000 for developments in

progress.

Rush & Tompkins on road to better times

Meanwhile, there is a full order book on the construction side, despite the drastic cutbacks in public expenditure.

The order book also spreads well into the following year. In housebuilding, the easier borrowing trend should soon be reflected in increased demand, though margins remain a constant problem with rising costs of raw materials.

Among its development projects, that for 2,000 houses in Scotland has started, and the expectations are that a beginning will be made on the £30m Chelmsford development, for a industrial and housing complex during this year.

Earlier this year, the company had a share issue in which the company has a 51 per cent share. A wide range of house types is being built with a large proportion suitable for first-time buyers.

Efforts also continue to obtain work overseas, particularly in the Middle East. In this region a considerable fund of knowledge and experience has already been built up.

Foreign Exchange

Sterling failed to hold on to an earlier gain (51.7195), losing three points on balance to close at 51.192 against the dollar, compared with 51.1795 overnight.

Bowater had to do much to lessen the problems of profit-taking in the foreign exchange market. It rose from 5 per cent in 1975 to 25 per cent of a bigger total.

<p

Stock Exchange Prices

Week ends quietly

Account Days: Dealings Begin, May 9. Dealings End, May 20. 5 Cantango Day, May 23. Settlement Day, May 31.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

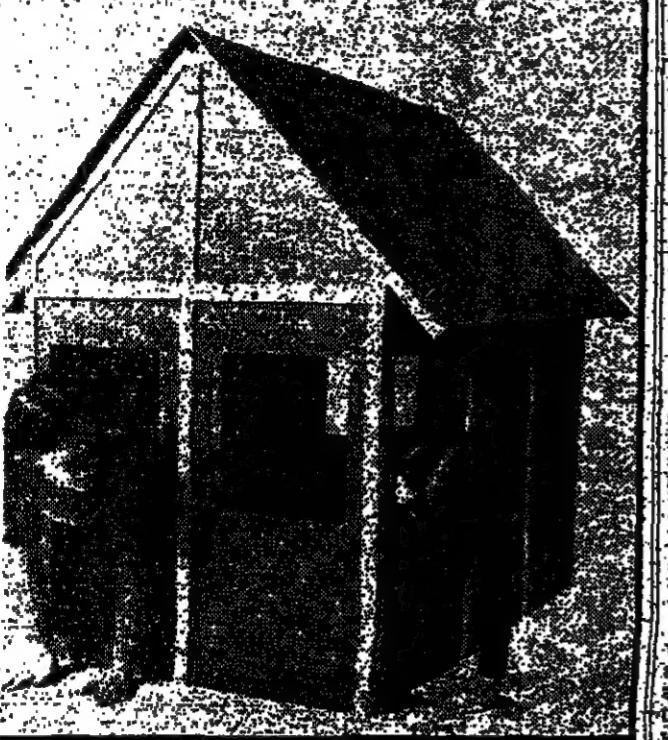
| 1977 | | 1976 | | 1975 | | 1974 | | 1973 | | 1972 | | 1971 | | 1970 | | 1969 | | 1968 | | 1967 | | 1966 | | 1965 | | 1964 | | 1963 | | 1962 | | 1961 | | 1960 | | 1959 | | 1958 | | 1957 | | 1956 | | 1955 | | 1954 | | 1953 | | 1952 | | 1951 | | 1950 | | 1949 | | 1948 | | 1947 | | 1946 | | 1945 | | 1944 | | 1943 | | 1942 | | 1941 | | 1940 | | 1939 | | 1938 | | 1937 | | 1936 | | 1935 | | 1934 | | 1933 | | 1932 | | 1931 | | 1930 | | 1929 | | 1928 | | 1927 | | 1926 | | 1925 | | 1924 | | 1923 | | 1922 | | 1921 | | 1920 | | 1919 | | 1918 | | 1917 | | 1916 | | 1915 | | 1914 | | 1913 | | 1912 | | 1911 | | 1910 | | 1909 | | 1908 | | 1907 | | 1906 | | 1905 | | 1904 | | 1903 | | 1902 | | 1901 | | 1900 | | 1999 | | 1998 | | 1997 | | 1996 | | 1995 | | 1994 | | 1993 | | 1992 | | 1991 | | 1990 | | 1989 | | 1988 | | 1987 | | 1986 | | 1985 | | 1984 | | 1983 | | 1982 | | 1981 | | 1980 | | 1979 | | 1978 | | 1977 | | 1976 | | 1975 | | 1974 | | 1973 | | 1972 | | 1971 | | 1970 | | 1969 | | 1968 | | 1967 | | 1966 | | 1965 | | 1964 | | 1963 | | 1962 | | 1961 | | 1960 | | 1959 | | 1958 | | 1957 | | 1956 | | 1955 | | 1954 | | 1953 | | 1952 | | 1951 | | 1950 | | 1949 | | 1948 | | 1947 | | 1946 | | 1945 | | 1944 | | 1943 | | 1942 | | 1941 | | 1940 | | 1939 | | 1938 | | 1937 | | 1936 | | 1935 | | 1934 | | 1933 | | 1932 | | 1931 | | 1930 | | 1929 | | 1928 | | 1927 | | 1926 | | 1925 | | 1924 | | 1923 | | 1922 | | 1921 | | 1920 | | 1919 | | 1918 | | 1917 | | 1916 | | 1915 | | 1914 | | 1913 | | 1912 | | 1911 | | 1910 | | 1909 | | 1908 | | 1907 | | 1906 | | 1905 | | 1904 | | 1903 | | 1902 | | 1901 | | 1900 | | 1999 | | 1998 | | 1997 | | 1996 | | 1995 | | 1994 | | 1993 | | 1992 | | 1991 | | 1990 | | 1989 | | 1988 | | 1987 | | 1986 | | 1985 | | 1984 | | 1983 | | 1982 | | 1981 | | 1980 | | 1979 | | 1978 | | 1977 | | 1976 | | 1975 | | 1974 | | 1973 | | 1972 | | 1971 | | 1970 | | 1969 | | 1968 | | 1967 | | 1966 | | 1965 | | 1964 | | 1963 | | 1962 | | 1961 | | 1960 | | 1959 | | 1958 | | 1957 | | 1956 | | 1955 | | 1954 | | 1953 | | 1952 | | 1951 | | 1950 | | 1949 | | 1948 | | 1947 | | 1946 | | 1945 | | 1944 | | 1943 | | 1942 | | 1941 | | 1940 | | 1939 | | 1938 | | 1937 | | 1936 | | 1935 | | 1934 | | 1933 | | 1932 | | 1931 | | 1930 | | 1929 | | 1928 | | 1927 | | 1926 | | 1925 | | 1924 | | 1923 | | 1922 | | 1921 | | 1920 | | 1919 | | 1918 | | 1917 | | 1916 | | 1915 | | 1914 | | 1913 | | 1912 | | 1911 | | 1910 | | 1909 | | 1908 | | 1907 | | 1906 | | 1905 | | 1904 | | 1903 | | 1902 | | 1901 | | 1900 | | 1999 | | 1998 | | 1997 | | 1996 | | 1995 | | 1994 | | 1993 | | 1992 | | 1991 | | 1990 | | 1989 | | 1988 | | 1987 | | 1986 | | 1985 | | 1984 | | 1983 | | 1982 | | 1981 | | 1980 | | 1979 | | 1978 | | 1977 | | 1976 | | 1975 | | 1974 | | 1973 | | 1972 | | 1971 | | 1970 | | 1969 | | 1968 | | 1967 | | 1966 | | 1965 | | 1964 | | 1963 | | 1962 | | 1961 | | 1960 | | 1959 | | 1958 | | 1957 | | 1956 | | 1955 | | 1954 | | 1953 | | 1952 | | 1951 | | 1950 | | 1949 | | 1948 | | 1947 | | 1946 | | 1945 | | 1944 | | 1943 | | 1942 | | 1941 | | 1940 | | 1939 | | 1938 | | 1937 | | 1936 | | 1935 | | 1934 | | 1933 | | 1932 | | 1931 | | 1930 | | 1929 | | 1928 | | 1927 | | 1926 | | 1925 | | 1924 | | 1923 | | 1922 | | 1921 | | 1920 | | 1919 | | 1918 | | 1917 | | 1916 | | 1915 | | 1914 | | 1913 | | 1912 | | 1911 | | 1910 | | 1909 | | 1908 | | 1907 | | 1906 | | 1905 | | 1904 | | 1903 | | 1902 | | 1901 | | 1900 | | 1999 | | 1998 | | 1997 | | 1996 | | 1995 | | 1994 | | 1993 | | 1992 | | 1991 | | 1990 | | 1989 | | 1988 | | 1987 | | 1986 | | 1985 | | 1984 | | 1983 | | 1982 | | 1981 | | 1980 | | 1979 | | 1978 | | 1977 | | 1976 | | 1975 | | 1974 | | 1973 | | 1972 | | 1971 | | 1970 | | 1969 | | 1968 | | 1967 | | 1966 | | 1965 | | 1964 | | 1963 | | 1962 | | 1961 | | 1960 | | 1959 | | 1958 | | 1957 | | 1956 | | 1955 | | 1954 | | 1953 | | 1952 | | 1951 | | 1950 | | 1949 | | 1948 | | 1947 | | 1946 | | 1945 | | 1944 | | 1943 | | 1942 | | 1941 | | 1940 | | 1939 | | 1938 | | 1937 | | 1936 | | 1935 | | 1934 | | 1933 | | 1932 | | 1931 | | 1930 | | 1929 | | 1928 | | 1927 | | 1926 | | 1925 | | 1924 | | 1923 | | 1922 | | 1921 | | 1920 | | 1919 | | 1918 | | 1917 | | 1916 | | 1915 | | 1914 | | 1913 | | 1912 | | 1911 | | 1910 | | 1909 | | 1908 | | 1907 | | 1906 | | 1905 | | 1904 | | 1903 | | 1902 | | 1901 | | 1900 | | 1999 | | 1998 | | 1997 | | 1996 | | 1995 | | 1994 | | 1993 | | 1992 | | 1991 | | 1990 | | 1989 | | 1988 | | 1987 | | 1986 | | 1985 | | 1984 | | 1983 | | 1982 | | 1981 | | 1980 | | 1979 | | 1978 | | 1977 | | 1976 | | 1975 | | 1974 | | 1973 | | 1972 | | 1971 | | 1970 | | 1969 | | 1968 | | 1967 | | 1966 | | 1965 | | 1964 | | 1963 | | 1962 | | 1961 | | 1960 | | 1959 | | 1958 | | 1957 | | 1956 | | 1955 | | 1954 | | 1953 | | 1952 | | 1951 | | 1950 | | 1949 | | 1948 | | 1947 | | 1946 | | 1945 | | 1944 | | 1943 | | 1942 | | 1941 | | 1940 | | 1939 | | 1938 | | 1937 | | 1936 | | 1935 | | 1934 | | 1933 | | 1932 | | 1931 | | 1930 | | 1929 | | 1928 | | 1927 | | 1926 | | 1925 | | 1924 | | 1923 | | 1922 | | 1921 | | 1920 | | 1919 | | 1918 | | 1917 | | 1916 | | 1915 | | 1914 | | 1913 | | 1912 | | 1911 | | 1910 | | 1909 | | 1908 | | 1907 | | 1906 | | 1905 | | 1904 | | 1903 | | 1902 | | 1901 | | 1900 | | 1999 | | 1998 | | 1997 | | 1996 | | 1995 | | 1994 | | 1993 | | 1992 | | 1991 | | 1990 | | 1989 | | 1988 | | 1987 | | 1986 | | 1985 | | 1984 | | 1983 | | 1982 | | 1981 | | 1980 | | 1979 | | 1978 | | 1977 | | 1976 | | 1975 | | 1974 | | 1973 | | 1972 | | 1971 | | 1970 | | 1969 | | 1968 | | 1967 | | 1966 | | 1965 | | 1964 | | 1963 | | 1962 | | 1961 | | 1960 | | 1959 | | 1958 | | 1957 | | 1956 | | 1955 | | 1954 | | 1953 | | 1952 | | 1951 | | 1950 | |
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weekend

Furniture and children's wendy houses are being really well made, lightfully designed and direct by a man and his wife whose business is wood working and hobby trying to make white furniture.

The Peggy Playhouse is 52 inches long by 42 inches wide, 50 inches high and it lies packed in a small carton measuring 30 by 16 by 16 inches. When they have the kit they can buy fixtures and accessories such as letter boxes, open close windows, a door-knocker etc. The Peggy costs £25 for the basic house complete with pegs and let. Made in either red pine or a high-grade plywood and there is a return service for lost or broken parts—the latter will be rare because the building is sturdy despite the kaway benefits.

The same company makes all tables that outlive the usefulness for toddlers since convertable adult or older children's seats because of strength and these too, are away when not used. They cost about £7 or £8.50 according to whether you buy finished or unfinished surfaces. Child's tables are in the series, as are tot's tables a wooden slide that can



(Top) Girls with Peggy Playhouse and (above) Lady with packaway instant table.

A small firm specializing in personal bookplates has given service with several readers are so used that they have written to tell me so. There are styles—Twenties (a shade nouveau), Pre-Raphaelite, Augustan, Jacobean, Medieval. Prices are £8.50 per 500 and you get the illustrated leaflet from Literary Enterprises, 46 Beechcroft Road, London NW10.



Top right: Nothing modern about this rare piece made by master-horologist Robert Charroux at his craftsman's bench in Switzerland. From his own designs on paper, Charroux made every part by hand and polished it to perfection before assembling in a transparent glass case to show the inner beauty. For collectors of watches of Switzerland and rather good value at £3,000. For a year's work and all those precious parts, that cannot be a high price.

Right: Three quartz fashions from Piaget at Watches of Switzerland.

Photographs by Trevor Sutton

small, slender aerosol to "size" the air used in tins, factories and is over much of the UK now on retail sale. John Lewis Partnership. It contains an Ozium Based solution which—quote the technical bit—hygroscopic and has an ability to minimize so that sprayed in the air, it has itself to the air's moisture particles are the vehicles for odours and airborne viruses and literally carries them. Dispensed in small, light bottles the Ozium glycol solution can float for

two hours or more in a closed room to carry on the good work. I cannot prove or disprove this, but if they do use it in hospitals and say it lasts as long as about four normal-sized air freshening aerosols—and should do much to kill rather than merely to mask smells. For the latter, if it is fine because I have at least been able to test that part of the claim. The 75p size, which fits in a handbag or large pocket, contains 500 measured squirts. Enquiries to G. H. Wood and Company, 1/2 Mulgrave Court, Mulgrave Road, Sutton, Surrey. Here is no John Lewis store near you.

Here you see the lettering style. You can have a maximum of 16 letters or just settle for His and Hers, even for Theirs. The idea of sending one with your telephone number on it may appeal to some? Has appealed to some,

since some have ordered them. Foreign languages are no barrier either, but do remember accents when you send abroad. My own choice of a lovely, velvety pile is the Ascot towel, which costs £3.95 for the 17 by 32in size; £6.95 for the 23 by 46in; £10.95 for 35 by 60in; and £14.95 for 40 by 76in. Colours are white, royal blue, brown, fondant pink, champagne, sunflower, turquoise, purple and a good bronze green.

The Mayfair quality is cheaper, from £3.75 to £9.75 for corresponding sizes, and

has a good pile but is less velvety, ideal for those who prefer roughness when drying. Towelling robes to match are between £11.75 for children up to £27.75 for full length robes, while a shorter version costs £22.75.

Send for a leaflet to give further details. Do not worry about the lack of glamorous presentation on the leaflet because the service is good and the towels fine. Delivery averages three weeks. The address is Cyril Came and Sons, 105 Wentworth Avenue, London N3 1YN.

SHOP AROUND



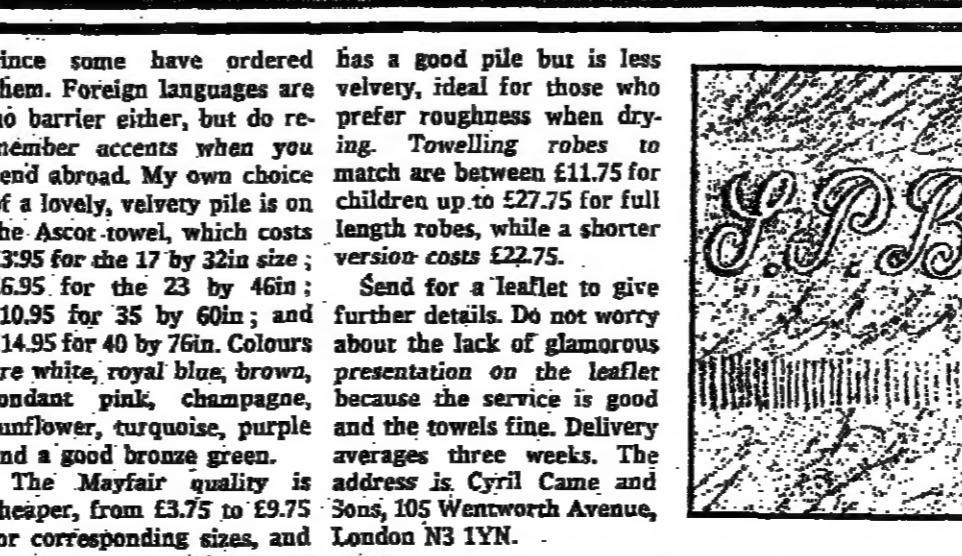
Sunglasses are not just to make a pretty face

distorts the lens is not for you or anyone.

Do not despise plastic lenses but remember that they scratch more easily. Plastics are needed for

rounded fashion shapes, but study the lens for distortions or spots or particles of the original powder from which the plastic was made. Some glass is toughened and,

Some sound digital advice



by Sheila Black

which is something you ought to do anyway, it is worth buying labelled sunglasses with some information about your lenses.

Blues, browns, greens and greys are the best tints but do not go for really dark tints in British climates. Greys and browns least distort natural colours. Do not rush to buy sunglasses for children but, if glare worries them, take them for professional optical advice.

Those lenses that lighten or darken according to the intensity of light—do give them time to adjust and do not lose patience because they cannot do so instantly.

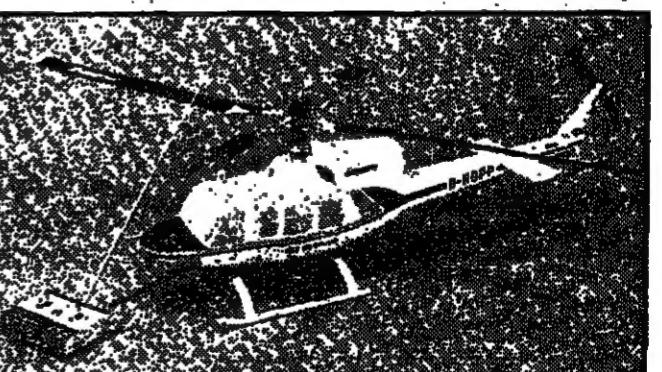
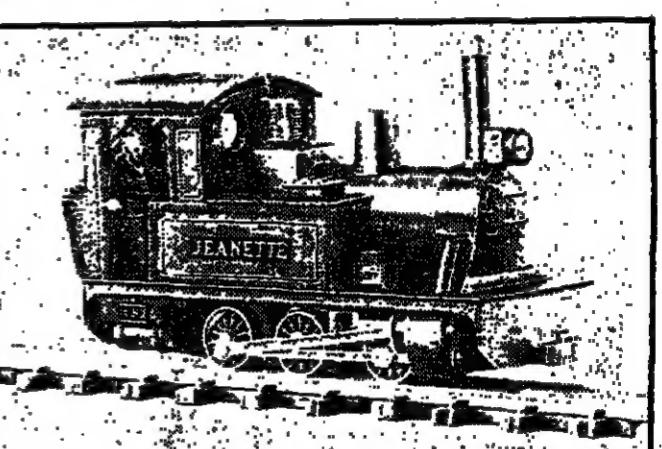
Polarized lenses filter out glare from flat surfaces like water and snow so these are probably wonderful for fishermen, sailing addicts and skiers. But they are not advisable for normal driving because they often show up the stress patterns of toughened windscreens and so worry drivers.

Men, women and children wooden Viking ship, confessing that the real wood makes a welcome change from the real plastic. There is also a wooden Cutty Sark—my family has already been presented with a plastic one. The fun thing about Billing Boats is that you can make up the complete models, then buy brass fittings and trim for them to convert them from standard to de luxe showpieces. Mark you, the brass fittings often cost more than the boats but what would you expect?

There are some hideously fascinating Black Forest clock kits. I dislike them, but hundreds love them and they are interesting to make. There was one that struck me as original—a knight swings his chain and weight against four uprights, moving between minutes to get the next post. When the chain entwines the post, it is fascinating to watch it begin to unwind itself to free the knight for his next move. Yes, it tells the time as well. These kits are about £48 for quite a variety.

War games with appropriate soldiers and fortresses are specialties of Hamleys so that people come from all over the world for them. My special favourite, however, are the Builder Plus sets because I would thoroughly enjoy making up model towns and villages with steeped churchills with real stained-glass windows, garages, farmhouse, pub with proper inn sign and shops. Of strong cardboard, very durable, these building components are from 40p to £1. The price is something else I like about them.

This Hamleys is not a toy shop—you still have to go to Regent Street for those. But it does have craft kits including one with which to make perfume. This is a Model Centre. There is a multi-storey car park opposite the entrance but you can spiral up to the ninth floor as each floor is small and I prefer the underground car park in Cavendish Square.



Top : Jeanette is usually found on narrow gauge railways and is popular with preservation societies because she has the charm and character that reminds them of the good old days. Her white metal body can be painted, she is 65mm long and she costs £3.75.

Above : The Bell 212 radio-controlled helicopter of glass fibre can be fitted with mechanical working parts. A giant beauty measuring more than six feet long, the fuselage is £85 but the working parts cost £200.

W. H. Smith is doing a special offer on Kodak's new Instant cameras, the cameras which are said to be less messy and sometimes more automatic than the Polaroid which had the field to itself for so long. In 40 branches, the EK6 Instant Camera which has been selling at around £48-£49, will be £34.95—that is the model with a handle which you wind to deliver the print.

The fully automatic model, EK6, which delivers the print as soon as you have taken the picture and pulled the black slip, will be £44.95 instead of about £63. Films, normally £4.80 will carry 35p reductions. From Monday next, May 16.



Devotees of the Tower Slow Cooker, the plug-in casserole with the earthenware interior that is so good and so comparatively cheap for making stews, soups and the like, may or may not be pleased to know that there is now a larger version with a six-pint capacity. I am pleased because I have found that my half-size one did not accommodate a lot of bones and bits for stock and many will welcome the larger model. Displeased because the larger one was not available in the first place. Well, not displeased, just resigned. The price of the big one is £21.95 (recommended price). It is at most stores and is made by Tower Housewares PO Box 16, Wolverhampton WV5 8AQ, Staffs. The smaller one is £17.95 (recommended price).

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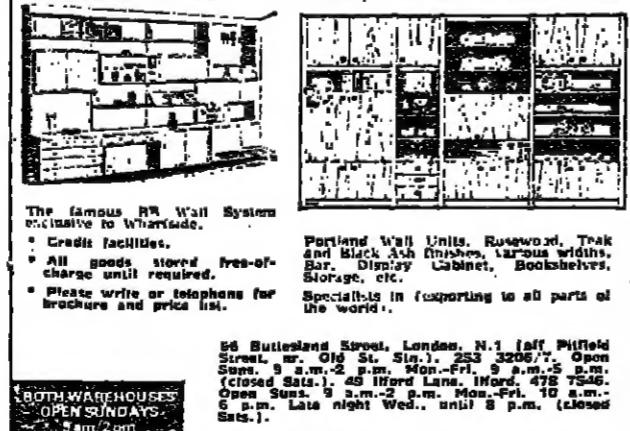
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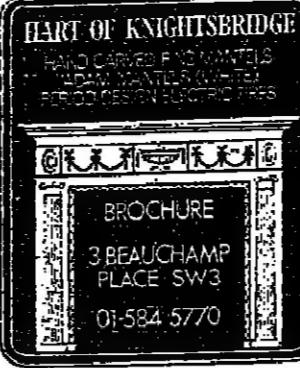
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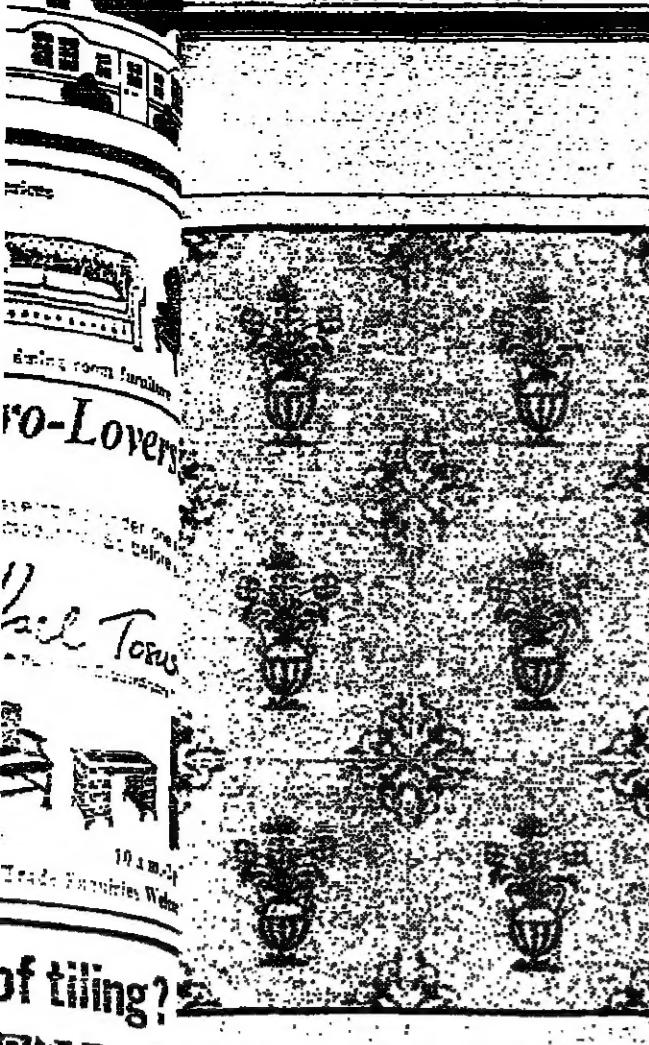
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Delicate blue and white patterns from Ceramique International whose range includes all shapes, sizes, weights and colours. Heals have many on eight kitchen floors, but translate them to living rooms. Main showroom at 47/49 Cheapside, Bradford, Yorks.

If you have ever thought about why so many houses in warm climates tiled, at least on the ground floor, you might have decided it was because they were cool the feet, or that carpet did not make the rooms too hot for most of the year. But think tiles are there for looks and convenience, because when and where the tiles are warm, so many people troop into and through houses from a variety of reasons. Now think about the people who live in homes that much the same treatment, remind yourself that winter makes a muddier mess than the dry hot weather others through your home. Of all the terraced houses, visited from Victorian or Edwardian artisans' cottages through estate agents' describe as bijou). Think of all the new housing developments, oh, ever since the war, have largely designed on the raced theme to save land and building costs. Most terrace houses have one thing in common, whether in

town or country. They have either no hallway or they have precious little of it so that the dirt of the outside world is not shed before it is trodden into the carpets. And they have no side passages to the back gardens or patios so that robins must come through to the front for the blossoms, while earth, plants and other garden necessities go through from front to back.

If you think I speak with feeling, let me say that while the estate agent might describe my home as a mews cottage of character, it is a terraced house. There is a minute hall. Then you are in the living room from which doors open on the stairs and the kitchen and the back patio. The garage door does open from the hall but, since that is only a short step across, the garage does finds its way into the living room too.

When I bought the house, the agent enthused about the wood-block flooring—and it was very nice. So I hurried a shaggy rug into the centre of the room and enjoyed the effect as much as the economy of not having to

carpet a room about 20 feet long by 15 feet wide.

In no time, the floor looked gaudy. Little drops laid a trail from the kitchen, dust or mud from stairs or spills where somebody had a hot drink precariously while opening the door to the stairs. The patio paid its share into the room. Outside doormats were hopeless, the mat soaked the floor. So I had the floor sanded and sealed and it then looked shiny, almost sticky, and showed every single dust footprint. Before long the feet had literally beaten a path through the protective coating and I had a kind of Indian trail through my room.

I gave up carpeted, with a reasonably practical orchid wool pile carpet. At the end of the first year it was stain cleased for £14. Little rubbed patches, by each doorway showed how often these areas got interim treatment so that the carpet was rubbed to a different colour in those places.

The tiler suggested running them into the hallway. And then it hit me. Why not right through to the living room and kitchen?

I did, only I went even farther and took them out into the small patio beyond the sliding glass doors of the living room. The pattern is large, not too busy and composed of two tiles per complete pattern design. I have never regretted

the last estimate, some two years ago, was £45. I began gloomily to study practical buy carpet patterns or darker colours and disliked them all for room size is too big for concentrated patterns and needs lightness and brightness.

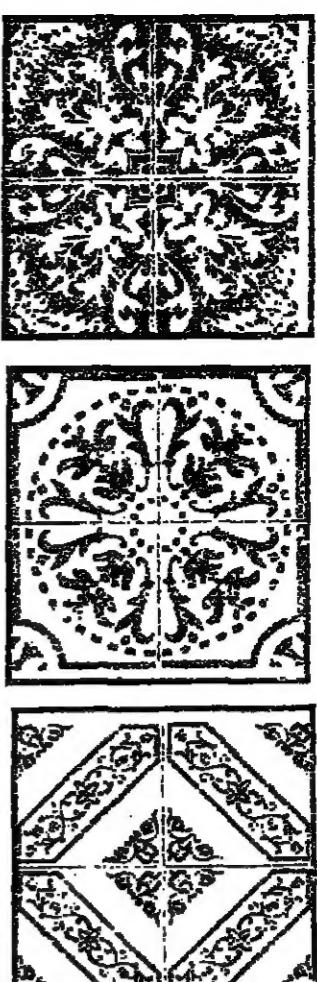
Picture on right is of a sun terrace—the Patio range from Pilkington's includes natural shades like Stone, Rockface and Chocolate at about £10 a square yard.

HOME EXTRA

Laying down something you will never regret

On the far right, hard tiles for indoors from Pilkington's. From the top, Piazza and Artec, which give more lightness. At the bottom, Copper Beech—looks warm in winter and cool in summer. About £11.50 a square yard.

Picture on right is of a sun terrace—the Patio range from Pilkington's includes natural shades like Stone, Rockface and Chocolate at about £10 a square yard.



might choose. They will serve you directly in much of the Home Counties south of the Thames.

They do not lay tiles but can recommend good workmen in many areas, as can most good tile stockists. Your yellow pages will list tile firms for you and I went on a tour of all my locals finding prices at between £5 and £30, before I settled on some at—then £9 the square

yard.

Durissime tiles are from about £9 per square yard and you should expect to pay at least that for a good floor tile, especially if it needs to be frost-proof—and they do look so good carried through into the garden or terrace. Inevitably, the tiles you like best will probably be much more expensive but be patient. In time you will study so many patterns that your own taste will adjust to nearer your budget and you will not even feel that you have finally chosen a compromise.

Prices vary tremendously. I bought my Durissime Italian tiles from the Guildford Tile Centre, Old Town Works, Sydenham Road, Guildford (Guildford 75914/3953). A family business that supplies tiles and tile retailers over much of Britain, it keeps tons of tiles always in stock which obviates the tedious delays of anything up to six months for much that you

sweep the floor and wipe an occasional small mark in three years. It is quite incredible how even thickish mud dries—when the rain stops long enough—into a powdery, easily swept up consistency.

Durissime tiles are from about £9 per square yard and you should expect to pay at least that for a good floor tile, especially if it needs to be frost-proof—and they do look so good carried through into the garden or terrace. Inevitably, the tiles you like best will probably be much more expensive but be patient. In time you will

study so many patterns that your own taste will adjust to nearer your budget and you will not even feel that you have finally chosen a compromise.

Although the doors and other things have gleaming brass accessories, the time to clean them is stolen from the maintenance-free floor. My daughter, who has these tiles on the floor of her room where table tennis, snooker and other games are regularly played, has never had to do anything but

wipe for the summer.

Although the doors and other things have gleaming brass accessories, the time to clean them is stolen from the maintenance-free floor. My daughter,

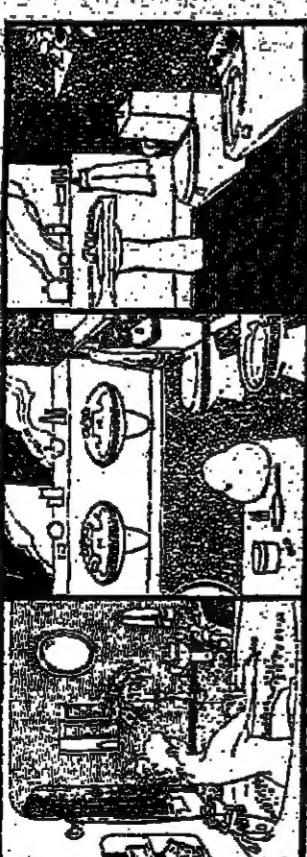
she has them in her ground floor, through the studio and corridor and would do the same again. One thing, you cannot take them with you to be sure that you plan to live on in the tiled home. To be honest, I do not think that, as yet, a tiled floor adds much to the value of the house so buy them only because you want them.

Sheila Black

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